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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW LECTURE
Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho recently taught Constitutional Law to CNMI 11th Fire Academy cadets. The Fire cadets will receive Northern Marianas College credits for completing the course. The Fire cadets will continue taking other courses and complete the Fire Academy in July 2016.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI handgun law struck down

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has declared unconstitutional the CNMI's gun control law that prohibits all residents from obtaining handguns for self-defense purposes.

Manglona

Manglona ruled that the handgun and handgun ammunition ban and their import ban contained in the provisions of the CNMI Weapons Control Act are declared unconstitutional and in violation of the Covenant that incorporated the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Manglona said the implied prohibition on issuing weapons identification cards (WIC) for self-defense, or "family defense" as stated on the WIC application, is declared unconstitutional and in violation of the Covenant that incorporated the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The judge issued the ruling favorable to U.S. Navy veteran David J. Radich and his wife Li-Rong, who have filed a lawsuit against then-Department of Public Safety commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and Department of Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, that challenges the

See HANDGUN on Page 4

IN WAKE OF HANDGUN RULING

Sweeping gun control legislation drafted

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Capitol Hill officials bemoaned yesterday the U.S. District Court for the NMI ruling that essentially found the CNMI's law on handguns unconstitutional.

A comprehensive 57-page legislation to regulate the possession of firearms will be considered in a House of Representatives emergency session set today for this purpose.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Senate President Francisco M. Borja (Ind-Tinian), and House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) met with CNMI Attorney General Edward Manibusan to go over the draft legislation from the AG's Office yesterday.

The governor's spokesman Ivan Blanco said the Torres administra-

See GUN on Page 4

Govt seeks 18-year prison term for Ogumoro

- **Defense counsel recommends suspended sentence for ex-DPS deputy commissioner**
- **Defense attorney says Ogumoro merely a good actor following Fitial's stage direction**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI government is recommending an 18-year prison term sentence against former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro for his conviction of three felonies and six misdemeanors, while Ogumoro's counsel is requesting a suspended sentence.

Ogumoro

The sentencing of the 57-year-old Ogumoro will be at 1:30pm today, Wednesday, before Superior Court Associate Judge David

See OGUMORO on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
Visiting nuns of the Mercedarian Sisters of Berriz were thankful for the help the Rotary Club of Saipan has extended to them.
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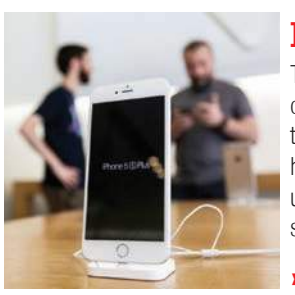

BUSINESS
The FBI said Monday it successfully used a mysterious technique without Apple Inc.'s help to hack into the iPhone used by a gunman in a mass shooting in California.
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FOCUS
Gilbert Chikli was rolling in money, stolen from some of the world's biggest corporations.
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Local

Rota, Tinian harbor feasibility studies moving forward

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

The feasibility studies for repairs and upgrades to the Tinian and Rota harbors are ongoing and moving forward, according to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama, they are still working on the "data aspect" of the study which is being done with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

According to Lizama, the Army Corps of Engineers recently met with stakeholders on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota that have an interest in the navigation improvements on Tinian and Rota as well as with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

"The meeting provided a summary of the assessment process, inclusive of the schedule and cost sharing requirements," Lizama said.

Lizama said the Army Corps of Engineers was able to get the concerns and input needed to get the studies going from the stakeholders.

A Charrette meeting was also conducted last month in Honolulu, Hawaii, which was attended by representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers headquarters and Hawaii Offices as well as two CPA personnel.

Charrette refers to an intensive planning session or meeting.

"Discussed in the Charrette meeting was the project overview, existing technical studies overview, economic data needs, iteration, and planning steps. CPA and the stakeholders were able to provide the necessary information for USAE to forge ahead with their studies," Lizama said.

Last September, the administration of the late governor Eloy S. Inos signed an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers on the feasibility, design, and construction phases of the project. Congressional authorization is needed to get from the feasibility to the construction phases.

The harbor feasibility study is a three-year study with a total cost to the CNMI government at about $1 million

The feasibility study refers to the engineering and conceptual design for repairs, which will include cost estimates, economic analysis, environmental studies and analysis, and potential environmental impact statement.

The report will recommend to U.S. Congress whether the repairs and upgrades are worthy of federal investment or not.

BLESSED CROSS FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Rev. Fr. Jayson Granado blesses the 30-foot cross that was carried to Mt. Tapochau on Good Friday. Devotees touched the cross and made the sign of the cross as a form of veneration after the blessing.

MYPros aims to prepare NMI youth to become leaders

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Marianas Young Professionals sees the role of the youth sector in the CNMI's developing economy and that's the reason they are looking to assist them to become the future leaders of the Commonwealth.

Connecting young professionals to the community is one of MYPros' missions.

"There are lots of opportunities available for the young professional with a lot of development that is happening. We want to help them to have better planning so they could benefit from it," said MYPros director Matt Deleon Guerrero.

"Our goal is to help develop younger professionals. Help them identify what resources are available for them in the public and private sector. We want all sectors benefit from the economic growth since a large percentage of the CNMI's population is under 30 years old."

MYPros vice president Nola Hix added that they are looking for the experiences of those who are ahead of them to help them in challenging young professionals to take more risks to become future leaders.

"We don't have all the answers but we want to connect to our elders who are successful members of the business community and government. To learn from their experiences on doing things, to work with others, and know what to do for our community," said Hix.

MYPros, who also has members on Tinian and Rota, is also extending its membership to Guam especially to those who were born on Saipan. They also plan to include high school students where they would act as mentors,

MYPros is also looking into increasing the percentage of female professionals in the CNMI labor force with only 38 percent of them holding management positions. They also hope to encourage students to take up courses in the fields of health care, engineering, and architecture.

According to MYPros, there are only six female engineers in the CNMI with treasurer Nicolette Villagomez—a water/wastewater engineer at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.—being one of them.

They would also encourage CNMI-born students who graduated in U.S. colleges and universities to consider coming back to the Commonwealth to start their career and help with the economic development.

Bo Palacios is the MYPros president with Jacqueline Che as the group's secretary, while Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) and Kaitlyn Neises-Mocanu are the two other board directors.

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM
Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.
Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.

WHISPERING PALMS SCHOOL
Established in 1988
P.O. Box 10000 PMB 121 Saipan MP 96950 (saipanprivateschool.com)
Tel: 670-323-7451 Email: whisperingpalmsofsaipan@gmail.com
Open Enrollment:
Whispering Palms School is currently accepting applications for the 2016 - 2017 school year. W.P.S. has small classes with an average of fewer than 18 students per class.
U.S. Trained Teachers with Masters Degrees
Annual Activities Include:
Outdoor Education Camp Out at Managaha
Authors and Artists Night
Dramatic Arts Productions
Halloween and Holiday Activities
Special Programs Include:
Physical Education Program led by Tennis Coach, Jeff Race
Fine Arts Classes
Affordable After School Care
Whispering Palms School is a Member of the Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools

JON PEREZ

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, fourth left, presents a plaque of appreciation to Imperial Pacific International LLC/Best Sunshine International, Ltd. majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie, fifth left, yesterday at the BSI gaming facility in Garapan.

APATANG TO BSI:

'Thanks for stepping up to the plate'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang is thanking Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) for stepping up to the plate, setting an example of how a private company should work together with the public sector, especially in times of great need.

Apatang said the generosity given by the parent company of Best Sunshine International, Ltd. had a tremendous impact on the lives of more than 30 individuals who were hired on short-term employment. He said the Hong Kong-based company gave these people the chance to earn wages that put food on their tables, pay bills, and buy school supplies for their children.

"The individuals we were able to hire and pay their wages from the cash donations your company committed to making and deposited to the CNMI general fund sped up the recovery effort," said Apatang in yesterday's presentation of a plaque of appreciation to officials of Imperial Pacific, which owns and operates Best Sunshine Live.

Imperial Pacific/Best Sunshine majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie, Best Sunshine chief executive officer Mark Brown, BSI senior vice president of operations Donald Browne, and BSI director of corporate social responsibility Geri Dela Cruz were present in the presentation.

Apatang said while many volunteers showed up only with their bare hands, BSI's contributions helped made the recovery effort meaningful immediately after Typhoon Soudelor leveled Saipan. "[BSI] came in with much more, [with] cash and in-kind contributions, and manpower."

"We thank [BSI] for participating in the cleanup effort, taking lead on many recovery projects that got members of our community to be involved, and for helping our government go through the experience with little anxiety," added Apatang.

Lijie said she had fallen in love with the beauty of Saipan and that's why she has committed to help the island in every way. She added that BSI wants to work closely with the Saipan Mayor's Office.

"We're willing to assist the community anytime whenever the need arises. We do it for the people of Saipan regardless of the photos and being on the news. This is one piece of the many community projects and services we do," said Lijie.

"We just want to do our share to help the community. We want to work with the government and the local people. We are here to help promote Saipan to the world," Lijie added.

"This is basically our whole concept of community service," added Brown.

Leepan wants to combine juvenile probation with adult probation services

Rep. Joseph Leepan Guerrero (R-Saipan) has authored a bill to transfer the juvenile probation unit under the CNMI Division of Youth Services to the local courts.

House Bill 19-145 finds that the Office of Adult Probation Supervision, under the Commonwealth Superior Court, "serves the same purpose and performs the same functions" as the DYS' juvenile probation unit.

The bill states that the "consolidation" of the two separate services will provide an opportunity for partnership, sharing of resources in management, training, administrative support, and grant functions.

"Allowing for juvenile delinquents to be properly supervised by the Commonwealth Superior Court will allow for these troubled youth to become active and productive members of society for a better and brighter future," the bill states.

The bill also states that transferring these functions from DYS will allow the Department of Community of Cultural Affairs, which DYS is under, to focus on other divisions and program. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

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HANDGUN

From Page 1

constitutionality of the CNMI Weapons Control Act that prohibits all residents from obtaining handguns for self-defense purposes.

The DPS commissioner is responsible for enforcing the CNMI's laws, customs, practices, and policies.

The Finance secretary, on the other hand, has the authority with enforcing the prohibition on the importation of handguns into the CNMI.

In her 17-page order issued on Monday, Manglona granted plaintiffs' cross-motion for summary judgment. She denied defendants Deleon Guerrero's and Larson's cross-motion for summary judgmement.

Manglona ruled that the prohibition on issuing WICs to lawful permanent residents contained in a provision of the CNMI Weapons Control Act is declared unconstitutional and in violation of the Covenant that incorporated the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Manglona said the DPS commissioner and Larson in their official capacities are permanently enjoined from enforcing the unconstitutional handgun and handgun ammunition bans contained in the CNMI Weapons Control Act against the Radich couple.

Manglona said the DPS commissioner is permanently enjoined from enforcing the prohibition on issuing WICs to lawful permanent aliens contained in the Act against plaintiff Li-Rong.

Manglona said the DPS commissioner is permanently enjoined from refusing to issue WICs to plaintiffs for self-defense purposes or "family defense" as stated on the WIC application.

She ordered the DPS commissioner to issue WICs to plaintiffs, if he finds that they satisfy the unchallenged provisions of the Act, no later than 30 days after this order.

Manglona awarded plaintiffs costs and fees.

The Radich couple is ordered to submit their costs and fees to the court no later than April 11, 2016. Defendants shall file their response, if any, no later than April 18, 2016.

Radich was born in California. He is an honorably discharged U.S. Navy veteran who served in the Gulf War. He used to work as a public school on Tinian then moved to Saipan in 2008 to work for an environmental consulting firm. He and Li-Rong have been married since 2009.

According to the complaint, in 2010, while Mr. Radich was away and his wife, Li-Rong, was at home alone, their home was invaded.

Li-Rong was reportedly attacked and beaten resulting in injuries, including two broken ribs, facial contusions, and a suspected broken orbital bone and eye socket.

She screamed out for help and caused the home invader to leave. She eventually recovered physically, but both plaintiffs incurred medical bills for Li-Rong's care.

The couple applied for weapons permit in July 2013. To this day, no permit has been granted.

The plaintiffs contend that the Commonwealth's restrictions violate the Second Amendment and the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment.

Specifically, the plaintiffs' four-count complaint asks the court to find that the ban on the possession of handguns and handgun ammunition violates the Second Amendment and that the ban on importation violates the Second Amendment.

The couple's complaint also asks the court to find that the implicit ban on receiving a WIC for self-defense purposes violates the Second Amendment and that the ban on lawful permanent residents obtaining a WIC violates equal protection.

The couple requests the court to enjoin the DPS commissioner and the Finance secretary from enforcing those provisions of the laws.

The court heard the parties' motions last Nov. 19, 2015. Manglona then placed the motions under advisement.

In her order issued on Monday, Manglona said the Second Amendment, as well as the due process clause and equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment, are the law of the land in the CNMI as if it were a state.

The judge pointed out that the Second Amendment, made applicable against the states through the 14th Amendment, protects the fundamental right of armed self-defense, and prohibits any state from completely banning handguns.

Manglona said the equal protection clause prohibits discrimination against suspect classes of individuals, including lawful permanent residents, without a legitimate state interest as justification.

Here, Manglona said, because the Commonwealth's gun control laws ban the right to keep and bear handguns, or implicitly any firearm for the purpose of self-defense, and because the import ban would frustrate the exercise of that right, the Commonwealth's laws are unconstitutional, and the DPS commissioner and Finance secretary must be enjoined from enforcing them.

Similarly, the judge said, because the Commonwealth prohibits lawful permanent residents from exercising the right to keep and bear arms without any legitimate interest whatsoever, the prohibition violates the equal protection clause and the DPS commissioner and Finance secretary must be enjoined from enforcing the law.

Manglona ruled that the Second Amendment applies to the CNMI, secures the right to self-defense using a handgun, prohibits the Commonwealth from banning the import of handguns, and prohibits the Commonwealth from denying WIC applications on the basis of self-defense.

GUN

From Page 1

tion is actively working with the Office of the Attorney General and the Legislature to enact the necessary laws and subsequent administrative regulations to "ensure safety measures are in place including, but not limited to, background checks, waiting periods, setting fees, course requirements, and other safety regulations."

"The administration is disappointed with the decision and is evaluating its right to appeal the lower court's holding and other possible legal options to prohibit the introduction of handguns into the CNMI," Blanco said.

While the administration expressed a desire for a possible appeal of the ruling, an AG spokeswoman signaled otherwise.

AG public information officer Carla Torres told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Manibusan does not have plans to appeal the ruling.

The AG-drafted bill set for the House today says the AG office "fought admirably and tirelessly" the lawsuits that challenged the Commonwealth Weapons Control Act but that unfortunately, the district court found that the Second Amendment applied to the CNMI.

When asked, Carla Torres said the decision to not appeal was not because of "costs," and instead they wish to turn their focus on the handgun legislation.

"Over 40 years the Commonwealth Weapons Control Act has protected the people of the Commonwealth from gun violence," Manibusan said in a statement yesterday. "In light of the district court's decision in Radich [v Commonwealth], my office will continue to ensure the safety and security of the people of the Commonwealth. We have been working with the governor and the Legislature in crafting legislation on the use and possession of firearms consistent with the United States Supreme Court's decision in Heller.

"That legislation with a section by section analysis is now before the Legislature for its consideration and action," Manibusan, the CNMI's first-elected AG, added.

The AG-drafted bill, House Bill 19-148, says that this section by section analysis is intended "to have the same degree of persuasive authority" as the analysis of the CNMI Constitution and the section by section analysis of the CNMI Covenant have on the interpretation of both fundamental texts.

The House session to consider the proposed law begins at 1:30pm in the House Chamber.

New legislation

"This morning, we woke up to very concerning news surrounding the U.S. District Court's ruling declaring that the ban of handguns in the CNMI is unconstitutional," Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said yesterday. "This is very troubling news for many of us in the community who share a grave concern for the safety and security of life and property.

"Nonetheless, we will not rest," Demapan added. "The Legislature is already in the process of working with the administration and the Office of the Attorney General to enact necessary legislation to provide regulations in the wake of the court's ruling. In the same token, I am hopeful that the Attorney General will consider exhausting all available options to appeal the court's decision.

Current firearms laws, which ban handguns, rifles in calibers larger than .223, and shotguns with a bore diameter of .410, protect human life and ensure public safety by outlawing firearms whose primary purpose is offense against human beings, the bill states.

"The history of the Commonwealth demonstrates that offensive firearms have never been needed by the community, and the use of offensive firearms during World War II only brought suffering on an almost unimaginable scale to the people of the Northern Marianas Islands, the bill states. The vast majority of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth strongly oppose the legalization of handguns because they rightly fear that the large-scale introduction of handguns will undermine our peaceful communities, "the bill states.

The AG-drafted bill says the Legislature "reluctantly accepts that it must legalize the ownership and possession of firearms to the extent required by the Second Amendment."

The bill enacts a "Special Act for Firearms Enforcement (SAFE) to create a framework for firearms ownership, possession, and use that complies with the Second Amendment, while affording the greatest possible degree of protection to the people of the Commonwealth and its guest.

The bill agrees with previous U.S. Court of Appeals in the Ninth District in Jackson v. City & City of San Francisco that "requiring firearms to be either kept on the person of an individual over 18 or secured with a trigger lock in a gun safe, furthers the important interest in public safety and satisfies intermediate scrutiny."

The bill adopts the City of San Francisco's legislative history and the court opinion's in the Jackson case.

The bill also finds that "crimes must be created" to address the expected increase in firearm violence if the Second Amendment applies to the Commonwealth.

The bill regulates the sale, possession, and transportation of firearms; the authority to carry firearms in certain places, the possession of ammunition; penalties for violations, among others.

Prohibited firearms, per the proposed bill, are sawed-off shotguns, a silence, sound suppressor or sound moderator, machine gun, short-barreled rifle, an assault weapon, or a .50 BMG rifle.

The bill also defines and regulates what is allowed under "self-defense with deadly force, and defense of a third party, among others, and regulates and penalizes theft of firearms, the possession of a stole firearm, among others.

The bill establishes a chapter known a the "Gun Free Zone Act" to establish "gun free" zones in or around government buildings, jails, courthouses, public meetings, poker machines, places of worship, public hospitals, schools, and private property, among others.

The bill mandates that the Department of Public Safety "shall not register, and shall seize" any unregistered firearm that was present in the CNMI prior to the effective date of the SAFE law.

DPS will also seize any illegal firearm or firearm that was illegally present in the CNMI prior to March 29, 2016, the bill states.

OGUMORO

From Page 1

A. Wiseman.

Special prosecutor George Lloyd Hasselback, counsel for the CNMI government, said for his crimes, Ogumoro deserves the harshest punishment.

"He has evidenced no remorse, not even a shred of acceptance of responsibility for the egregious breach of the public trust for which he has been convicted," Hasselback said in the sentencing recommendation. "This court should send a strong message to the people of the CNMI that no person is beyond the reach of its laws.

The special prosecutor said to permit any leniency for defendant because he was "just following orders" would constitute an odious disregard of the very principles of personal responsibility upon which the entire system of criminal jurisprudence rests.

Hasselback said Ogumoro has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate as evidenced by his statements to Office of Adult Probation officers "an air of arrogance and entitlement that should deeply offend any law-abiding citizen and bring from this court the harshest of censure."

Attorney Daniel T. Guidotti, counsel for Ogumoro, recommended a sentence of three years, all suspended, plus other conditions that the court deems just.

Guidotti cited Ogumoro's distinguished service in the U.S. Marine Corps, his services to the CNMI, the nonviolent nature of his actions, and the fact that he was acting on orders from his superior, then-governor Benigno R. Fitial.

Guidotti said Ogumoro was neither the architect, nor the initiator of the plan to assist then-attorney general Edward Buckingham with departing the CNMI without being served with the penal summons.

That distinction, the lawyer said, belongs to Fitial, the man who Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman described as a "screenwriter, producer, and director" of the conspiracy.

"If Fitial was acting as screenwriter, producer, and director, then Mr. Ogumoro was merely an actor on stage," Guidotti said.

He said Fitial made phone calls and gave direction to Ogumoro, and like a good actor, Ogumoro followed Fitial's stage direction.

Last Jan. 26, Wiseman announced his verdict finding Ogumoro guilty of seven of nine corruption charges for his role in the shielding of Buckingham from being served with penal summons in August 2012.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

APL to reduce fuel surcharge for Saipan and Guam shipping

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Ocean carrier American President Lines will be reducing its fuel surcharge rates for shipping to Guam and Saipan beginning this Friday.

According to APL general manager for Guam/Micronesia John Selleck, their company will be reducing its "Fuel Adjustment Factor" by 20 percent for shipping from the U.S. mainland due to falling oil prices.

The new fuel surcharge rates will be $497 per dry 20' container, $622 per dry 40' or 45' container, and $697 per refrigerated 40' container.

The rates will be effective this Friday, April 1, and will be in effect for three months, until the next quarterly adjustment.

"We are happy to announce this 20-percent reduction and to be able to pass these lower fuel costs on to our Guam and Saipan customers," Selleck said.

APL's Fuel Adjustment Factor is a flat rate that is based on container size and type. It is adjusted quarterly based on the Transpacific Stabilization Agreement published westbound rates and methodology used by transpacific carriers.

TSA adjusts its rates quarterly based on publicly posted fuel prices for the prior quarter.

"We believe this is the fairest and most reasonable way to calculate the fuel surcharge. Moreover, because it is adjusted quarterly based on publically available prices, it is far more transparent and predictable for our customers," Selleck said.

APL Guam—the ship that is servicing Saipan and Guam as well as Japan and South Korea—made its first port of call on Saipan last Dec. 31. This weekend will mark its eighth arrival to Guam and Saipan.

Special events, other offerings every month at Aqua Resort

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Aqua Resort Club is planning to have special events and other offering for every month, highlighting important holidays and occasions for the whole year. The Achugao hotel is fresh from hosting an Easter Egg Hunt last March 27 and brought back their St. Patrick's Day celebration last March 17.

Aqua Resort assistant food and beverage manager Ann Razon said they would usually meet and plan ahead a month to 90 days before the event. Rom Manzon is ARC's F&B manager.

Their next scheduled event is the Administrative Professionals Day or Secretaries Day on April 27, Wednesday, where they are expecting bosses to treat their executive assistants to lunch in honor of their special day.

They had an Easter Sunday brunch at Costa Terrace where egg painting and egg hunting activities were held for the children. A few weeks ago, they brought back their St. Patrick's Day celebration after more than a five-year absence.

Razon said their loyal customers were the reason why they decided to again hold one of the most important cultural feasts for the Irish. ARC used to hold St. Patrick's Day celebration by just offering beer and cocktails.

Razon said this time they decided to carefully plan everything to make sure the event happens without a glitch, with their bartenders concocting green-colored cocktails made from Bacardi, Grey Goose, and Bombay Sapphire just for the event.

"Executive chef Ed Olarte also helped by coming up with an Irish-themed menu just for the occasion," added Razon who's been working on Saipan for 23 years with 13 of them at Aqua Resort.

Aside from their loyal customers, tourists and in-house guests also joined their St. Paddy's Day celebration that was hosted by DJ Dice at the poolside of Michelle's Bar. MARPAC helped in sponsoring the event and offered Bud Light Lime, Rolling Rock, and Stella Artois beers.

Razon is also inviting the local community to try their Happy Hour from 4:30pm to 7:30pm everyday.

"You can go unwind at Michelle's Beach Bar relax after work where you can enjoy a relaxing view of the beach and the Saipan sunset. Aqua Resort is considered to be an ideal place that gives you a different view of the Saipan sunset among the hotels here on the island," said Razon.

"We also have Michelle's Pool Bar and Vino Spanish Bar where a band regularly plays," added Razon.

TEACHER AIDE AND INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

The House of Representatives yesterday morning presented House Resolution 19-36 to Eric C. Larson for being selected as the 2016 CNMI State Teacher Aide of the Year and House Resolution 19-37 to Rose Sharon T. Jones for being selected as the 2016 CNMI State Instructor of the Year. The resolutions were authored by Rep. Angel A. Demapan and adopted by the House last Dec. 16.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

APC
AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan
Costa
Terrace Restaurant
Proudly offers.....
Seafood Night Dinner Buffet
Tuesday & Friday • 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Featuring all you can eat Chef's great choice of seafoods with all you can drink Asahi beers and Carlsberg.
$29.00/Adult | $15.00/Child
Steak & Wine Dinner Buffet
Saturday • 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Featuring all you can eat of Rib Eye Steaks cook to your likings with all you can drink of Wines and Beers.
$29.00/Adult | $15.00/Child
Sunday Brunch Buffet
11:00am to 2:00pm
Featuring Roast Prime Ribs, Roast Pig, Sashimi,Sushi bar with all you can drink of Sparkling wines and Beers.
$29.00/Adult | $15.00/Child
Daily Theme Lunch Buffet
11:00 to 2:00pm
$15.00/Adult | $8.00/Child
MONDAY
Authentic Chinese with Hot Pots
TUESDAY
Italian with Cioppino Seafood Soup
WEDNESDAY
Korean with Bibimbap
THURSDAY
Chamolinian with BBQ
FRIDAY
Japanese with Shabu-Shabu
SATURDAY
International with Beef Rendang
Includes: Daily made appetizers, Crisp greens salad bar with condiments and choices of dressings, make your own sandwiches, Choices of freshly bake breads, Assorted Cheese platter and Nuts, Local fruits, Mouth watering desserts, Cakes, Ice cream and Bottomless Coca-Cola Soda fountain.
Please inquire also for group parties from 10 to 160 seats (Christening, Birthdays, Meetings or Seminars)
For reservation please call Aqua Resort Club @ 322-1234 ext. 731 or 732

Torres looking into CPUC, CUC management needs

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said he is looking into filling the vacant positions in the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

At present, the regulatory agency has only three commissioners, two members short of the total five seats that they have.

"We'll be working to fill those positions," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Torres, there is a challenge in filling in the members of the commission.

"We're looking seriously into the CPUC board because it's always been a very difficult board to fill," Torres said, "Of course, with the role that they have, it's really not easy to fill those positions."

In a separate interview, CPUC chair Joe Guerrero said he has reached out to the governor as well as the Attorney General regarding their membership.

"I think he is still searching," Guerrero said.

Because there is a minimum of three commissioners for CPUC to function, if only one of them is absent or not available, they cannot do business.

Two out of the three members that they currently have will end their term in May.

"Right now, my term ends May 30 so does Oscar Quitugua representing Rota," Guerrero said.

Another commissioner, Dave Guerrero, will end his term next year.

"If I don't get reappointed or I don't get a replacement then the commission will not be able to function," he added.

Similarly, the governor said he will also look into replacing Commonwealth Utilities Corp. director Chris Concepcion who will be resigning.

Concepcion will take up his position as managing director for the Marianas Visitors Authority in April.

Concepcion has mentioned to the governor that he needs to focus on his new responsibilities.

"If Chris needs to resign, then I thank him for his services and his time [as CUC director]. Now that he's playing a different role, and he has to resign, I respect that," Torres said.

"We'll look into having somebody to replace him in his position," he added.

CPUC postpones regulatory session until May

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission will be postponing its next regulatory meeting initially set for next month.

The regulatory agency was supposed to have its session in April but they decided to push it back.

"We originally scheduled the regulatory session for April 15 or that week. We have decided to move it, postpone it until further notice," CPUC chair Joe Guerrero said.

Guerrero said they are waiting on additional documents to be filed by both the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and CPUC's rate consultant Georgetown Consulting Group.

"We're just waiting on additional reports, testimonies to be filed," Guerrero said.

They are looking at May to hold their regulatory session.

"We're hoping to finalize the date sometime in May," Guerrero said.

CPUC last held a regulatory session in May of last year. A regulatory session was supposed to be held last September but did not materialize.

Guerrero said they are also finalizing the details of their agenda.

For CUC, the agency has two dockets to be reviewed by the commission.

For the power side, Docket 16-01 will propose rate adjustments with two surcharges: the Disaster Recovery surcharge, which will be $0.0145 per kilowatt hour; and the Capital Improvement surcharge of $0.0225 per kilowatt hour.

The first surcharge, which is designed to recover CUC's 10 percent share in typhoon damages, will be implemented across all ratepayers, while the second surcharge will be only be applied to commercial and government accounts. This will help CUC recover its capital improvement projects at $2.6 million a year. This would mean a total of $0.037 per kilowatt hour surcharge for the said accounts.

For water and wastewater, CUC will be amending Docket 15-03 which they submitted to the CPUC last April which will eliminate the water and waste water electric charge on their customers' bill and instead include an electric surcharge to the power side.

CUC said this adjustment will have customers' electric charge go up but significant decrease to water charges will be felt.

The amended docket will state that the surcharge will be $0.013 per kilowatt hour instead of the $0.019 per kilowatt hour that was determined last year.

Guam must pay legal fees in same-sex marriage case

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—A federal court judge has ordered the government of Guam to pay more than $85,000 in legal fees for a same-sex couple who sued Gov. Eddie Calvo after they were denied a marriage application last year.

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood ordered the government Wednesday to pay the fees within 30 days, *The Pacific Daily News* reported.

Kathleen Aguero and Loretta Pangelinan had sued to overturn the territory's ban on gay marriage after they were denied a marriage application by the Department of Public Health and Social Services in April. Their lawsuit had been based on the prevailing opinion from the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which approved gay marriage in western U.S. states.

Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson had written a memo last April directing the department to immediately start issuing marriage applications to same-sex couples.

"While the (Public Health) Department was acting in accordance with Guam law, the Ninth Circuit's recent decision has rendered Guam's marriage statute legally unenforceable until such time that the Supreme Court of the United States alters the holding of the Ninth Circuit of Appeals," the memo states.

Despite the attorney general's order, Calvo and Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio had issued their own statement, saying they intended to defer action on the same-sex marriage issue.

"If it is the will of the people of Guam to make same-sex marriage legal on Guam, then the Guam Legislature, the people of Guam's representatives, can take action to change the law, or a referendum can be held giving the people of Guam a direct voice in this issue," their statement read.

Tydingco-Gatewood ruled in favor of Aguero and Pangelinan on June 8, 2015 and Guam lawmakers changed the law to allow same-sex couples to get married in August.

Calvo had refused to sign the bill, citing his religious beliefs. He allowed the legislation to lapse into law without his signature.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DLNR/PR-083

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 11, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF RIDING MOWER FOR THE DLNR – DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISON OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART. AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ELICEO D. CABRERA
DIRECTOR, PARKS & RECREATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DPS-086
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 11, 2016 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"SECURITY SERVICES – DPS IMPOUND LOT IN LOWER BASE, A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Divison of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan during regular working hours.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
Commissioner of Public Safety

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-16-001
PL-UNGRADED: $777.26 B/W
Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arms
Opening Date: March 15, 2016
Closing Date: March 31, 2016

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:
- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
- Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority;
- Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
- Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
- Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:
- Must have completed a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and
- Must undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. **Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-023
Opening Date: Monday, March 28, 2016
Closing Date: Friday, April 08, 2016

Maintenance Worker

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Management Analyst or designee. Performs routine preventative and general maintenance of buildings, grounds, equipment and systems in accordance with safety procedures and safe work practices. Maintains cleanliness of facilities including sweeping, mopping, buffing and vacuuming floors and carpets; cleans surfaces including doors, windows and work surfaces; dusts shelving and equipment; performs custodial duties; and collects and disposes trash. Performs basic building maintenance; replaces light bulbs; performs basic repairs such as door knob replacement, blower fan repair, and other routine equipment repairs; maintains order with equipment, furnishings, work areas and supplies. Notifies appropriate resource for advanced troubleshooting or repair work. Performs basic grounds keeping and facilities maintenance; inspects areas to maintain safety and eliminate general hazards. Reviews supply needs and replenishes supply stock such as tissue, paper towels, trash liners and other supply needs; moves file boxes or other items to storage areas; ensures proper storage of cleaning materials, equipment and tools. Performs inventory check of supplies and initiates requests for replenishment. Maintains activity records or logs. Assists skilled maintenance workers with project tasks; may assist with basic carpentry, plumbing and electrical work. Position requires the ability to lift 50 pounds or more. May be exposed to hazardous cleaning chemicals. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Administration (Dandan Office), Power Generation (Lower Base), Power Division (San Jose) Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $16,155.00 per annum to $19,850.00 per annum. (Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.
POSITION(S) : Three (3)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS. Knowledge of: Applicable tools and equipment of assigned maintenance tasks; Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Performing routine and preventative maintenance in assigned area; Performing housekeeping or custodial work; Performing basic equipment or system repairs; Monitoring grounds and work areas for hazards and safety; Reviewing and replenishing stock supplies; Initiating stock and equipment replacement; Maintaining activity records or logs; Assisting with basic carpentry, plumbing and/or electrical work; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

Camacho recuses from corruption case vs ex-Rota mayor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has recused from presiding over the corruption case filed against former Rota Mayor Melchor A. Mendiolaand four co-defendants.

Camacho said though there is no conflict as the issues raised by the prosecutor's motion were discussed on the record as part of the logistics of coordinating the jury trial in Rota involving Mendiola and four other defendants, he recuses himself from this case to avoid an appearance of conflict.

In a two-page order issued last week, Camacho said he is returning this case to Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja for reassignment to another judge.

Camacho vacated the pretrial conference and bench trial set for May 11 and Nov. 26, 2016 respectively at the Rota Superior Court.

Assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley, counsel for the government, filed the motion to recuse last week.

Baisley said a reasonable person could conclude that Camacho is biased against the CNMI government in the case against Mendiola and co-defendants and/or has prejudged the merits of that matter.

Baisley said first, Camacho disclosed a conversation he had with an extrajudicial source (the judiciary's comptroller) regarding the judiciary's expenditure of $50,000 in preparation for the trial in the previous case involving the same defendants that was dismissed.

Second, the prosecutor said, after disclosing this conversation—which was external to any fact at issue in the previous case, and was had with direct reference to the previous case—the judge compared the $50,000 cost to the judiciary with the lesser value of the government property at issue in the previous case.

Baisley was referring to Camacho's statement that involved in this case were "four laptops with values ranging from $975 to $2,049, as well as nine picnic tables."

Baisley said at both the hearing and in his order, Camacho directly questioned the government regarding whether it "had considered pursuing a civil collection action against the defendants rather than a criminal prosecution."

Third, the prosecutor said, Camacho stated that "it is obvious to the court that this motion is a motion for leave to amend and a motion to continue disguised as a motion to dismiss."

Baisley said a reasonable outside observer might consider the judge's comments as evidence that the court has a preexisting and/or extrajudicial bias against the government in the pending case.

Mendiola and co-defendants Alfred Apatang, Bernard Apatang, Tina Atalig, and Stacey Atalig are each charged with possession or removal of government property.

Office of Public Auditor Task Force officer JB K. Cepeda stated in his report that they initiated the investigation after receiving a letter from Rota Mayor Efrain M. Atalig, requesting assistance to investigate Mendiola's questionable transactions.

IN MOTION TO DISMISS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE VS ROTA COP

OPD says officer deleted recorded interview of alleged victim

The Office of the Public Defender has moved for the dismissal of the domestic violence case against a Rota police officer after another police officer allegedly destroyed significant evidence—the audio recording of an interview with the defendant's wife.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark, counsel for Police Officer George Ayuyu Barcinas, argued that dismissal is appropriate remedy given the importance of the evidence and the inability of Barcinas to reproduce it.

"While dismissal is a disfavored remedy, Mr. Barcinas has lost a key piece of evidence that was outright destroyed by, at best, negligence by a government agent and is now unable to use it to assist him at trial," Clark said.

As an alternative, the defense counsel asked the court to impose sanction on the government by precluding the defendant's wife from testifying.

"Permitting trial to go forward without any sanctions for destruction of evidence would be a violation of Mr. Barcinas' due process rights and would set an unwelcome precedent for future prosecutions," Clark said.

The bench trial of 35-year-old Barcinas on charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and interfering with a domestic violence report was originally set for May 6, 2016.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday vacated the bench trial and set that same day an evidentiary hearing and motion hearing at the Rota Courthouse.

In Barcinas' motion to dismiss, Clark said he was assigned to this case last Dec. 4 and that 10 days later, he furnished a discovery request to the Office of the Attorney General requesting, among other things, "all arrest reports, field notes… dispatch tapes, 911 tapes…or any other tapes or reports that relate to the investigation of the alleged offense…"

Clark said he learned that on the day of the incident, a Rota police officer interviewed the alleged victim inside a police vehicle in a parking lot outside of the Rota clinic.

Clark said the detective, he named only as officer Camacho, stated that he recorded the interview because he wanted to keep it to remember when he wrote his report and to try to avoid multiple interviews with the alleged victim since it may "re-traumatize" her.

Clark said officer Camacho, upon the interview, deleted the recording.

The lawyer said there is no police procedure, which allows or requires officers to delete such evidence.

He said officer Camacho transcribed portions of the interview into his report, which is not a verbatim transcript.

He said officer Camacho did not include any personal observations related to appearance, her emotional state, or any notes on vocal intonation, or anything at all aside from some direct quotes.

Clark said through the discovery does not make it clear, the alleged victim, was apparently interviewed multiple times by officers investigating this case.

He said officer Camacho's interview appears to be closest in time to the incident.

The Office of the Attorney General alleged that on June 5, 2015 on Rota, Barcinas pinned his wife to the ground and placed her in a headlock. He allegedly grabbed his wife's keys from her car's ignition against her will preventing her from leaving his property.

Barcinas also allegedly used physical force to struggle with and prevent the victim from calling law enforcement after she informed him of her intention to do so.

Saipan Tribune learned from Rota DPS yesterday that Barcinas is still on duty. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE NMC 1981

BOARD of REGENTS
Northern Marianas College
NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, March 31, 2016
Time: 3:00p.m.
Venue: Board Regents Conference Room
Saipan Campus

ORDER of BUSINESS

I. CALL TO ORDER
a. Roll Call
b. Review and Adoption of Agenda

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: Individuals may orally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
a. May 22, 2015 and continued May 26, 2015 – Regular Meeting

IV. NEW BUSINESS
a. WASC Accreditation Updates

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
a. Legal Matters
b. Personnel Matters

VI. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ Regent Frank M. Rabauliman Date: March 31, 2016
BOR Chairperson

HIMAWARI 10th Anniversary
Concert in Saipan
津軽三味線
Tsugaru Syamisen
JAPANESE TRADITIONAL MUSIC
RISOKAI (11 players)
和奏樂・津軽三味線・里奏会（奏者11名）
MARCH 31,2016 (THU) 5:30pm, Open 6:00PM Start
HIMAWARI 2F Multi-Purpose Hall
Please call Himawari for additional information at 233-1530 / 31
$10
Entrance fee per person
In Cooperation with Marianas Visitors Authority, Japanase Society of Northern Marianas
後援 マリアナ政府観光局 北マリアナ日本人会
TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT HIMAWARI

Visiting nuns thank local Rotary Club

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Visiting nuns of the Mercedarian Sisters of Berriz were thankful for the help the Rotary Club of Saipan extended to members of their religious congregation that operates the Maturana House of Prayer.

Some buildings inside the compound of the Navy Hill prayer facility, which also doubles as retirement home for MMB nuns, suffered damage when Typhoon Soudelor ripped through Saipan in August of last year.

Maturana is open not only to Catholics but also for other Christian groups on Saipan that want to use the facility for prayer meetings, workshops, and retreat.

JON PEREZ

Visiting Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz Sisters Filo Hirota, second right, and Mary Anne Becmer, right, join Japanese exchange students Shiori Koiki, third left, and Riko Yamamura, third right, from the Rotary Club of Tokyo Hachioji South as guesst in yesterday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting. Also in photo are Sisters Maris Stella Ifenuk, left, and Martha Ramarui.

Mercedarian Sisters Filo Hirota, Mary Anne Becmer, Arantza Lerchundi, and Julia Prado attended yesterday's Saipan Rotary meeting at the Giovanni's restaurant of the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Sisters Maris Stella Ifenuk and Martha Ramarui accompanied them in the said meeting.

Hirota is the Mercedarian Sisters' general coordinator with Becmer, Lerchundi, and Prado as general counselors. Hirota and Becmer along with Japanese exchange students from the Rotary Club of Tokyo Hachioji South—Shiori Koiki and Riko Yamamura—were the Rotary's guests yesterday.

Becmer has spent 25 years of her missionary life in Micronesia with his work on Saipan mostly involved with Guma Esperanza Women's Shelter. She is now in charge of the formation of the postulants and novices of the Mercedarian Sisters.

Ifenuk, the Maturana House of Prayer director, and Ramarui were also present in a similar meeting a few weeks ago where they asked Rotarians for assistance that would help them with the cost of repairs. Rotarians pledged to help the sisters.

"My brother-in-law is also a Rotarian, so I know the service that you do to the community where you belong. Thank you to all of your support and help. Thanks to you, our sisters can and will continue with their service here in the community," said Hirota, who was the first Catholic convert from their family.

The Mercedarian Sisters has established missions in the United States, South America, Africa, Asia, Micronesia, and Europe. They are mostly involved in helping people be released in all forms of captivity and oppression.

"We believe that we are all equal regardless of race, color, and gender. We all know that but it is a challenge for us. We also believe in universality and diversity could be a value," added Hirota, who is an executive committee member of Pax Christi International.

She is also in charge of the inter-congregational Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation network ad-hoc working group.

Atty. Torres opposes E-Land's request to compel him to arbitration

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney Vincent DLG. Torres is opposing a request to the federal court to compel all the claims in his lawsuit against E-land World Co. Ltd. and others to arbitration before the American Arbitration Association.

Torres, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, said E-Land and co-defendants continue to misstate and mischaracterize the facts in order to create a false narrative that will comport with these general principles.

Fitzgerald said the court must decide the question of arbitrability because Torres did not agree to be bound by the arbitration clause or the rules of the American Arbitration Association.

E-Land World Co. Ltd., the majority shareholder of Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort, and three others who are being sued by attorney Vincent DLG. Torres, are asking the federal court to compel all his claims to arbitration before the American Arbitration Association.

E-Land World Co. Ltd., Micronesia Resort Inc., Suwaso Corp., and Kwang Won Seo, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, said the arbitrator should decide any dispute on Torres' claims.

Pierce said Torres is legally bound by the broad arbitration agreement in the Purchase and Sale Agreement of Capital Stock of Suwaso Corp.

The agreement, Pierce said, was executed on Aug. 23, 2012 and amended on Oct. 12, 2012 by Yusuke Fumoto, an individual residing in Japan, and Micronesia Resort Inc., an entity incorporated under the CNMI laws.

Pierce said Torres negotiated the agreement on behalf of Fumoto. The agreement, he said, effectuated the transfer of a majority ownership interest in Suwaso Corp. from Fumoto to Micronesia Resort Inc.

In Torres' opposition, Fitzgerald said the arbitration clause does not encompass the claims included in Torres' complaint because count one concerns oral promises made to Torres not in the agreement and the agreement did not create the accounting and fiduciary duties of four counts in the lawsuit.

Fitzgerald said Torres cannot be forced to arbitrate based on agency because he is not acting on Fumoto's behalf and not attempting to vindicate Fumoto's interest.

He said Torres is not a third-party beneficiary because no direct benefit is bestowed on him by the agreement.

Torres sued E-Land World Co. Ltd., Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resort Inc., and some of its current and former directors and employees for allegedly failing to provide a proper accounting, embarking upon a scheme to misappropriate business opportunities and funds, and negotiating loans over $5 million without proper authorization. The case was originally filed in the Superior Court.

The defendants moved to transfer the lawsuit to the U.S. District Court for the NMI. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Eucon welcomes town and CW students

In its effort to help increase the local workforce, Eucon International University is now offering affordable tuition fee to local students and to children of indigent CW-1 parents. Town students may take advantage of the $198 per credit tuition fee and may apply for some work scholarships should they qualify. CW-1 parents may now choose to bring their kids and study here at a very affordable rate. Successful candidates will be able to pay the high school tuition fee. After one year of full-time attendance, the student will be allowed to avail the monthly payment schedule scheme. To be eligible, candidate must be able to present their birth certificate and the CW-1 approval of their parent, in addition to their academic records, and proof of income. It is the desire of Eucon International University's management to reunite families.

Eucon International University is offering BS in Education, BA in Bible, and MA in Theology. Dr. Christian Wei said that Eucon is working toward the addition of computer and music programs in the undergraduate level and a Master of Science in Education in the coming years.

Eucon International University is accredited by Transnational Association of Christian Colleges (www.tracs.org) and Schools headquartered at Virginia, USA. For more information, you may call the Business office at 234-3203/7 look for Marissa Bautista or Menchu De Jesus or email Vilma Reyes @ manrey123@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

March 30, 2000

NMHC may exceed target of 1,000 housing loans

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation is hoping to exceed the targeted number of approved home loan agreements before year-end, after failing to meet its goal of closing 1,000 mortgage applications before the Year 2000 rollover. Commonwealth Development Authority Executive Director Marylou S. Ada said 100 home loan agreements have already been approved by the housing corporation since the beginning of the new century. NMHC has processed and approved loan applications for the expansion of 45 houses and the construction of at least 51 new housing units at the Sugar King II.

NMC seeks permanent emblem

The Northern Marianas College is seeking to replace its existing logo with a new emblem that will symbolize the institution's commitment to providing quality higher education to the people of the CNMI. Three finalists have been chosen by a committee which conducted the CNMI-wide search for the insignia that will best describe the goals of the College in instilling the importance of education to Northern Marianas residents. The committee reviewed at least 28 entries submitted by artists from throughout the Northern Marianas from where the three best insignias were selected and presented to the Board of Regents yesterday.

March 30, 2001

SEDC: Want growth? Allot more funds for promotion

The CNMI Strategic Economic Development Council has emphasized the need for additional destination promotions in order attract an incremental 700,000 additional tourists over a five-year period through 2005. At an SEDC meeting last March 27, Air Service Committee Chair Bob Jones disclosed that air carriers recently approached by the committee have stated additional promotions are critically needed in order for them to increase service to the CNMI. Re-drafted CNMI legislation that would allocate approximately $200,000 annually in aviation fuel tax to the Marianas Visitors Authority for promotions was passed by the House of Representatives two weeks ago and is now before the Senate. SEDC supports the original intent of this bill, which was to utilize all the funds from this source for badly needed promotional efforts of the MVA. An earlier version of the bill introduced in November had been amended by the Senate to fund separate MVA offices in Tinian and Rota. MVA has also requested an additional $4 million for the agency's FY 2002 budget.

MCV sharpens dive vs. illegal connections

The Marianas CableVision has started disconnecting cable connections of individual homes and barracks illegally hooked to its system, as part of its audit of the Garapan system. MCV officials said illegal connections are causing poor reception to the cable company's paying subscribers. Connecting to MCV's system without authorization is illegal and punishable under Federal Law. The offender will be prosecuted and suffer penalties as punishable by law.

March 30, 2005

Tinian projects over $1M budget deficit

The local government of Tinian reports an average tax revenue deficit of $110,000 a month, which would mean a more than $1 million budget shortage by the end of the current fiscal year. In a March 21 report to Tinian Mayor Francisco M. Borja, municipal treasurer David Q. Maratita said that from October 2004 to March 2005, the municipality is already $660,000 behind its projected budget. Maratita said the slowdown is partly due to the lack of visitor arrivals from China.

TDHC has been co-sponsoring chartered flights from China to bring in tourists and casino players but the flights were cancelled early this month. It was not immediately learned if the flights had already resumed.

Governor may veto Agingan bill

Gov. Juan N. Babauta is inclined to veto the $3.3 million Agingan reprogramming bill due to the lack of available funds. The bill, which passed both chambers of the Legislature recently, has yet to be transmitted to the Governor's Office. He acknowledged that the project "is very important and very vital to the community." But he said that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. should continue working again with concerned authorities in identifying needed funds for the Agingan wastewater treatment facility project. Earlier, House members disclosed that the Kagman wastewater project—the funding source of the Agingan project—has a balance of about $2 million only as of March 17. It prompted them to defer action on a bill tapping the same source of funds for a $1 million road and drainage project. The Kagman wastewater project was originally allotted $10 million.

Hawaii lawmakers ask how much marijuana is OK while driving

HONOLULU (AP)—Hawaii lawmakers are asking how much marijuana a driver can safely consume before getting behind the wheel of a car.

It's an issue they want to tackle now that Hawaii is setting up medical marijuana dispensaries. So Rep. Cindy Evans and 15 other lawmakers introduced a resolution asking the state Department of Health to study whether a person can safely drive while under the influence.

Marijuana is the illicit drug most frequently found in the blood of drivers who have been involved in accidents, including fatal ones, but the role marijuana plays in those accidents is often unclear because it can remain in the bloodstream for days and it's often combined with alcohol, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says marijuana use impairs cognitive functions, lane tracking and other driving-related skills.

"I think that it's really important that we do this now," Evans said. "Hopefully this is the beginning of the discussion."

For drunk driving, there's a nationally recognized level of impairment, which is a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 grams per milliliter. But there's no federal rule or widespread consensus on what's an acceptable limit for driving under the influence of drugs.

Hawaii law bans people from driving under the influence of a drug that impairs their ability to drive, but there isn't a set threshold for how much marijuana—medically prescribed or not—is acceptable in the blood stream.

Several states have passed laws specifying how much marijuana in the blood stream is acceptable while driving, but set different limits for how much THC—the main psychoactive ingredient of cannibus—in the blood would be considered driving under the influence of drugs. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, Colorado, Montana and Washington set the limit at 5 nanograms per milliliter of blood, while Nevada and Ohio went with the lower 2 nanograms. Other states provide an exemption for medical marijuana patients.

AP

Hawaii Rep. Cindy Evans, Majority Floor Leader, talks about the need for information on how much marijuana a driver can safely consume before getting behind the wheel of a car on Monday, March 28, 2016, in Honolulu.

The state Department of Health opposed the resolution, saying the department doesn't have the capacity to study the complicated question, especially because the resolution didn't include funding. The department's director, Virginia Pressler, said in written testimony that The National Institute on Drug Abuse has been studying this issue for many years and hasn't been able to establish a recommended level for driving.

Despite the opposition, the House Committee on Transportation passed the resolution Monday, sending it to the Committee on Health to keep the discussion going, Committee Chairman Rep. Henry Aquino said.

"It's here, so we just wanted to make sure that we have some sort of scientific, some sort of data-driven study to being done to address this," Aquino said.

DOI announces nearly $5M in funding for US Virgin Islands

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina today announced nearly $5 million in grant funding for the U.S. Virgin Islands to support a wide range of local government initiatives that will, among other things, help build resilience to the impacts of climate change, strengthen essential social services, foster economic opportunity and promote government efficiency for the islands' people.

"I want to thank Governor Mapp and his staff for their tireless efforts in working with the Office of Insular Affairs to prioritize the government's initiatives and develop the scope and scale of the projects this funding will help to advance," said Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina. "We look forward to continuing this productive relationship as we carry out these critically important efforts to strengthen capacity and quality of life issues."

The assistance package announced today will help the USVI government build its capacity for climate change planning and adaptation, upgrade hospital infrastructure and equipment, increase public health services to underserved communities, repair public school buildings, renovate public libraries and develop educational outreach programs regarding the islands' self-determination options. The funding is provided by Interior's Office of Insular Affairs technical and maintenance assistance, and capital improvement programs.

U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell will make her first official visit to the USVI later this week where she'll discuss many of the same issues, highlighting the unique and important relationship Interior shares with the Islands.

"As the Virgin Islands marks the 99th anniversary of its transfer to the United States, and prepares for its centennial commemoration of that historic event, we are pleased to extend these grants as part of the Obama Administration's continuing commitment to work with territorial leaders in addressing the social, economic, and environmental challenges they face ," Secretary Jewell said. "I look forward to discussing these initiatives and other aspects of our relationship in my upcoming visit to the islands."

Secretary Jewell will be accompanied by Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina. During the visit, Jewell will meet with Gov. Kenneth Mapp, deliver keynote remarks at the 99th Transfer Day Ceremony, and join the USVI Climate Change Council to discuss how the Administration is helping island communities prepare and adapt to the impacts of climate change. She will also visit the Virgin Islands National Park on St. John and St. Thomas to underscore the Every Kid in a Park initiative, which connects young people to the outdoors, and meet with island leaders and community members at the Christiansted National Historic Site on St. Croix.

The technical assistance, capital improvement, and maintenance assistance grant funding awards and descriptions for FY 2016 are listed as follows:

Technical Assistance Program

■ Capacity Building and Educational Awareness of Self-Determination—$250,000 to the University of the Virgin Islands to establish an Office of Self-Determination and Constitutional Development. The office will work with the Centennial Commemoration Commission and other stakeholders across the territory to address the issue of self-determination. Major duties and responsibilities include political status and constitutional education; research and development; mass public education; and complementing activities of the Centennial Commemoration Commission.

■ Climate Change Adaptation Planning—$828,050 to the U.S. Virgin Islands Climate Change Council to develop a framework for climate change adaptation and planning by assembling a project team to research and collect information related to climate change vulnerability and risks associated with multi-sectors of society; and to strengthen relationships with governmental and nongovernmental partners to prioritize adaptation and mitigation plans; and to develop a robust multi-sector climate adaptation strategy.

■ Public Health Prevention—$80,000 to the St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corporation to increase services geared to improving the health status of rural and under-served populations by addressing the impact of climate change and implement community outreach activities relative to health literacy and education for non-communicable and chronic diseases.

■ Hospital Equipment Upgrades—$400,000 to the Juan F. Luis Hospital for operating rooms, upgrade for new equipment for Orthopedics, Cardiology, Gastroenterology and General Surgery, including a sterilization machine, anesthesia machines, biomedical testing equipment and machine servicing.

Maintenance Assistance Program

■ Hospital Roof Rehabilitation—$100,000 to the Juan F. Luis Hospital to help support complete renovation and replacement of the hospital roof infrastructure.

■ Utility Crane Truck—$169,000 to the U.S. Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority for a 17-ton crane truck to enable the utility maintenance team to transport pipes of different sizes, remove and replace existing waterline in trenches with new waterlines, and transport equipment to and from the construction site.

Capital Improvement Program

■ Enid M. Baa Public Library, St. Thomas—$480,000 to complete structural renovations and technology upgrades including design, engineering, and structural reconfiguration of the second and third floors of the library. Renovations will include upgrades to electrical wiring that has been damaged by water leaking in during rainstorms.

■ Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, St. Croix—$105,000 for the purchase and installation of a new powder-coated aluminum shelving system for audio books for the blind, an upgraded wiring system within the building to meet increased demands of electrical equipment and assistive devices, and the purchase of new office furniture and computer stations to accommodate the Public Computing Center and assistive devices for broadband internet access.

■ Elaine Ione Sprauve Public Library, St. John—$100,000 for the design and installation of a photovoltaic system for efficient energy production and consumption, improvements to parking areas to improve access for patrons, installation of a security system and exterior lighting, improvements to guttering system and replacement of air conditioning units. The funding supplements a fiscal year 2015 CIP grant for $65,000 for similar structural renovations.

■ Athalie M. Petersen Public Library, St. Croix—$190,000 for the renovation of the subterranean flood-prone Children's Room to prevent further damage, replacement of doors and windows compromised by weather damage, and repairs and upgrades to the plumbing infrastructure. The funding supplements a fiscal year 2015 CIP grant for $250,000 for similar structural renovations.

■ Florence A. Williams Public Library, St. Croix—$125,000 to purchase and install an integrated security system for print and DVD collections and special collections in the Caribbean Research Room, upgrades to the plumbing infrastructure, and long-term technology upgrades including a storage area network, plotter/printer, and a teleconferencing system. This funding supplements a FY 2015 CIP grant for $600,000 for similar structural renovations.

■ Insular Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms (ABCs) Initiative—$1,939,000 will be used to address high-priority health and safety deferred maintenance items identified in the Office of Insular Affairs' most recent assessment of school buildings across the territory. The repairs will include the installation or replacement of fire alarm systems, upgrades to fire protection and plumbing infrastructure, upgrades to heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC) systems and priority structural repairs.

The Secretary of the Interior is responsible for coordinating federal policy with respect to the territories of the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance provided to the freely associated states of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association. On behalf of the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas executes these responsibilities through the Office of Insular Affairs whose mission is to foster economic opportunities, promote government efficiency, and improve the quality of life for the people of the insular areas. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

The children of Fukushima: When medical tests mislead

Five years ago, the Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster spread deadly radiation by land and by sea. In the years since, Japan and the rest of the world have learned many lessons about why the reactor failed and how to prevent another such catastrophe.

But one of the most intriguing lessons of Fukushima involves hundreds of thousands of Japanese children potentially exposed to excessive radiation.

Japanese public health officials were aware of an increased incidence of thyroid cancer in Russian children after the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident. So researchers screened more than 300,000 Fukushima-area children 18 and under for thyroid irregularities that could turn into cancer.

The scientists' initial findings set off alarms. Tests detected some 30 times more cases of early thyroid cancer in Fukushima children than in children elsewhere in Japan who weren't exposed to the reactor radiation. Many children underwent biopsies, and some even had their thyroid glands removed, a procedure that carries risks and means a child must take thyroid pills for the rest of his or her life.

But a follow-up dive into the data led many epidemiologists to doubt those early findings for several reasons:

—Children living closer to the accident in areas of greatest contamination had no greater rate of early cancer than those living farther away.

—Younger children and infants, whose thyroids are more likely to be affected than those of older children, did not show an expected higher rate of abnormal findings.

—Some cancers were observed less than a year after the meltdown. It generally takes years for thyroid cancer to develop after radiation exposure.

The epidemiologists' explanation: The cancer findings weren't largely attributable to the increased radiation risk, but instead occurred because tens of thousands more children were screened for thyroid cancer using sensitive ultrasound devices. Typically, those children would not have been screened and the abnormalities wouldn't have been found.

Initially scientists had compared results from Fukushima children with all children in Japan. But when the same sensitive ultrasound was used to screen children in other parts of Japan, more thyroid cancer was found in them, too, and that 30-fold difference disappeared.

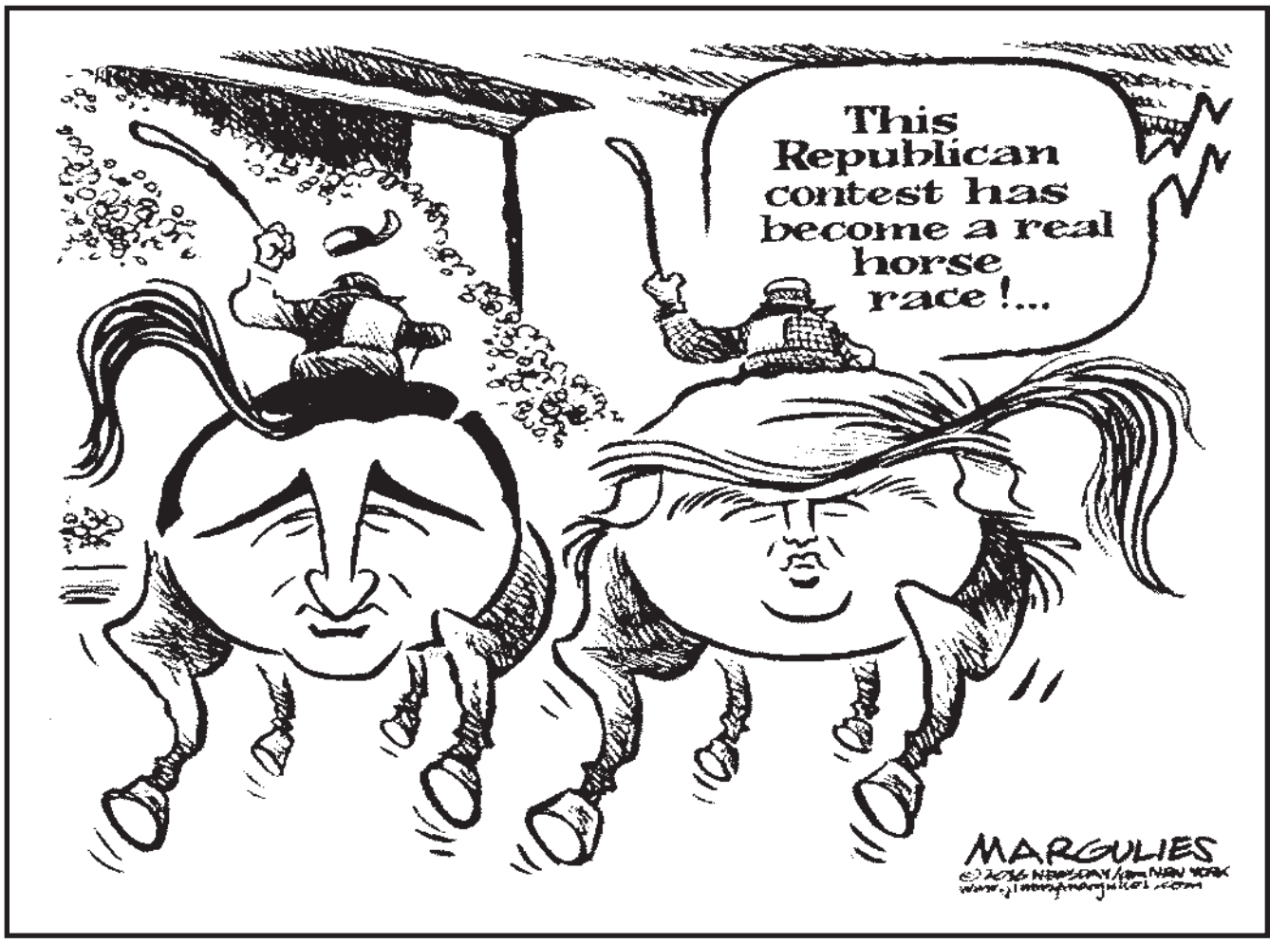
Put simply, greater screening led to more cases of early thyroid cancer diagnosed in all children. South Korean health officials report a similar finding since the government adopted widespread ultrasound screening for cancer in 1999.

Therein lies a cautionary lesson about the pros and cons of testing.

Thyroid cancer is a rare disease and usually develops slowly. Many of the ultrasound findings in the Fukushima children may never progress to full-blown cancer. An epidemic of childhood thyroid cancer deaths tied to the reactor meltdown is unlikely. Some of the children whose thyroid glands were removed might have been better off had they been placed under long-term medical observation instead.

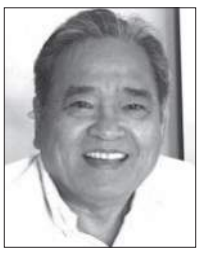
The lesson of the Fukushima children is that intensive screening will reveal more disease—but not necessarily more disease that must be treated.

See CHILDREN on Page 11



Garrymandering

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

The Massachusetts governor in 1812 was Elbridge Gerry and he tried to redistrict the state so it would benefit his party in an upcoming election. The shape of the new boundaries when drawn resembled that of a salamander, and a portmanteau combining the governor's name with a salamander was born: Gerrymandering. His party lost that election but the name stuck, and anytime we mess around with boundaries, it is called "gerrymandering".

Caitlyn Marie Jenner, former Olympic gold medalist decathlon athlete, decided that his physique and psychology better fitted that of a woman, and we got a famous male TV star to publicly own up to a transformation and be the Transgender of 2016. The fact that the public hardly batted an eye, even in the conservative outbursts of the era of The Donald, is indicative of the psychological and sociological gerrymandering that is occurring in our time without the accompanying negative connotations.

Garry is not her real name but a ponytailed "lady" often jogs her good-looking booty at our four-building complex' parking lot. I do not know her well, and I am definitely writing on a clear "garrymandering" mood, but Garry is a good-looking transgender, and proud of it. Our concern is not this specific Garry (though I pause for comedian Garry Shandling unexpectedly quitting at 66 this week), as it is the transgender phenomenon that Jenner represents and my neighbor Garry embodies, along with the journey I took from being apologetic of the *bakla* in Tanza, Tuguegarao where I briefly stayed when I visited my parents, to the awe of Caitlyn Jenner of the media.

Growing up, the prejudice was on "misfits." In Samoa, when a family has all boys, the runt is raised as a girl, a Fa'afafine; when all are girls, one is raised a boy. In ancient Akkadia of the Middle East, a salzikrum was one who was biologically female but had male traits. The effeminate in Samoa and Tonga, and the tomboy in Akkadia are full members of the society. No big deal. The salzikrum is considered a "male daughter" with rights to inheritance not normally extended to daughters.

The "misfits" in Tanza were exactly that to my Mom, until she developed skin rashes for using a certain detergent on her wash. A transvestite showed her how to use the soap properly."Manang," she said in her high-pitched lilting voice, "Kastoy ngamin ti aramidem" (this is what you do). It worked.

When my mother became socially active in the Cagayan Valley community development circuit, there were some good-looking transgenders in her entourage; and we are not talking of barber-salon keeper variety either. BTW, we do not disparage on the latter none!

The estimate is that as high as 5 percent of humanity are born transgender, and 95 percent develop prejudices against them. We begin early to disparage those we consider "abnormal" and the transgender is high on the list. Other terms like transsexual, transvestite, cross-dresser, etc., were often used with degrees of prejudice but we have Bruce Jenner to thank for in making the transgender category legitimately one of a third kind in our time. The politically conservative Irish in May surprisingly voted to legalize same-sex marriages, a practice now lawful in Guam.

My father sawed wood with his right hand and hammered nails with his left. He was ambidextrous but when he was growing up, he was trained to write with his right and discouraged to use his left, a waste of talent. He often did things with his left hand and finally gave himself permission to be ambidextrous rather than pay much attention to society's designation of "social misfit!"

My sister was tired of my tagging behind her to school when I was 4 years old, so she enrolled me on first grade. My mother did not mind but when she tried to enroll me to first grade again, the teacher informed her that I already passed the class (barely, made 77) and qualified to move to the next grade. So all throughout school, I was two years younger than my peers.

I was in fourth grade when I noticed that girls enjoyed playing with me when I allowed them to dress me up as a doll. My brother called me an effeminate *bakla* because of the cross-dressing, unthinkable then, but now, a normal entertainment datum as actor Will Smith tries to explain his son Haden's cross-dressing antics.

It is for reasons of honesty and reality that we welcome Bruce Jenner, the macho dude and stud turned into an attractive member of the "fairer" sex late in her age. There is virtue in being able to live just the way life is handed to us. The Jews had it right: the Way Life Is, YHWH, is the supreme reality. Unfortunately, we turned the focus on "supreme" rather than on the "reality."

Garry is audaciously unabashed about who she is, so we proudly nod our assent on this annual holiday of International Transgender Day of Visibility. There are among Pinoys in hair dressing shops and salons that need to know they need not apologize for who they are. Vive la difference!

Hinanau Famaguon-ta

Gi fina` konbetsasion yan dos senadot ginen Luta sige de in` ebalua i hinanau manma-eduka siha na famaguon-ta para otru lugat pot taya` appottunidat disiente na cho`chu` guine para siha.

Ayu na hinanau seguru na petmanente. Mampos nina` chatsaga i dos senadot as Terry Santos yan Paul Manglona.

Dos patte `nai maliñgu iya Marianas: Gaston miyon pot miyon pesus gi salape scholarship ni otru umaprubecha dispues de manma-gradua famaguon-ta. I hinanau manlistu na famaguon-ta para u fan man-ayuda gi adelantun tano`ta.

Apenas `sino taya` appottunidat yan kampu guine piot gi inestablesen tinituhon familia. Bula mas appottunidat guihe lagu deste cho`chu`, mauleg na komunida, hospitat, yan eskuela para i famaguon niha. Estague` na patte gi litratu i taigue guine. Mauleg i hita mismu dumisplanta tautau-ta?

Ilelegña si Santos yan Mañgloña na debi man-ma`gas Marianas u ma-espiha manera `nai siña man-maprebeniye famaguon-ta appottunidat guine pot no u sige man-hanau para otru lugat siha. Magahet na na`pinite i taya` kampun niha guine mañaga `nai siña ginen manma-estudian niha u tutuhon muna` guaha siha mas antau yan edukau na tinilaika siha. Lastima!

Un` lahihu mampos disganau sa` dimas de u tutuhongue` geran ideu gi adelantun iya Marianas mas te`ug i politikan natatah `nai mantai bali i manma-eduka na grupu. Kumu saina hu tutuhon humusga kau este futtunan niha i manma-eduka siha na famaguon-ta? Haf` mohon hinassun miyu?

Tiempon Añglu` yan Maipe

Ha tutuhon humatme hit fotte na tiempun añglu` yan maipe. Este na mattirun klima finenina hana` añglu` i tipu` siha `nai machuchule` hanom i señgsoñg.

Puede ti mattu gi eskaleran sapet para i publiku. Siempre kontodu eskuela yan hospitat gumai problema hanom. Dios mihu na sapet para estudiante siha.

Haf` este na alifanten dañkulu ti halom sala ni ti siña ta dulalag. Fuera de higante ni unu tumuñgu` kau u lachai hit muna` fangalileg.

Mauleg kada familia u preparague` manlupog hanom parehu ha` gi halom kemun sanhalom yan bañu. Debi u gasgas i kemun kada monhayan manasetbi.

Antes, mauleg sa` gagaige ha` i kemun sanhiyuñg. Pa`gu, puru kemun atileg. Gigon taya` hanom todu dia mamadesi hau inatileg guieñg gi halom fina` ti senkilisyanu na paguan. Dios mihu na chandan modetnu na linala`. Preprara linipog hanom pot no in` fan mamadesi.

Machalapon Na Karera

Maseha machalapon, guaha `nai namagof ta huñgog grupu man-e`esalau pot direchon indihinau (natibu). `An un` ekuñgog, kada unu kumakanta difirensiau na sunidu. Unu gaige As Matuis, i otru gi Deni, Kagman, sige luchan esta As Gonno`. Sige machalegua` siha sin dinaña` yan otganisasion.

Nanalau `an man-e`salau para ta presetba finu` Chamorro. Muñga manasetbe lau presetba taiguihe inasnen tukon ni ta pega gi halom taru.

Dispues, sige ta`lu man-esalau para tafan finu` Chamorro. Lau nubenta pot sientu gi gima` Chamorro man-finu` E`Englis deste oga`an esta`i minachum atdau.

Dopble problema sa` mapega gi eskuela yan finana`guen famaguon hila` nanan niha kumu segundu liñguahe. Ha komple i PSS obligasioña gi este na asuntu. I mañaina lumaime famaguon niha guine na puntu sa` diariu man-finu` E`Eñglis. Haf` mohon?

■■■

Si bihahu: Hu pulan si biha-hu antes `nai sige ha tutoñg i mai`es. Ha pada `stake ridondu dispues `nai ha pega gi hilu` maipe na komat. Paire na pinada` titiyas para amotsan talo`ane yan flitadan babue.

Dispues, matachong ya sige ha ugas i mendioka. Ha pega gi un` banda para u tunog i asientoña antes de u tala` gi papa` somnag. Paire na asientu gi na`yen neñkanu` siha.

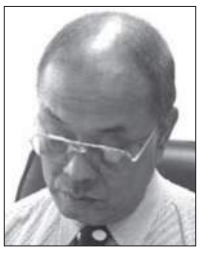
■■■

Fuetsan Espiritu: Guaha siha na lugat guine trabiha mandiskalentau kontodu kanton tasi. `An matuyu` Obyan kulan madudulag-yu` madudulalak. Ti hu komprende. Buente pot chagu yan i señgsoñg na matataguyu` humanau chadeg.

Gi kanton tasin iya Puntan Muchot otru lugat ni kulan trabiha ti kilisyayanu piot gi lemlem tautau. Guaha `nai huhuñgog burukan finattun galaide ni ma-esgagaihon halom gi kantun unai. Lau ni unu gaige. Kase mattu i ora `nai debi bai diñgu i lugat. Pot respetu gi man-antigu na humanau-yu` sin ditension.

I telai iya Tanapag otru lugat ni sessu-yu` manayuyot konrespetu gi un` ante. Era, guaha un` palao`an mapotge` `nai ha sufa` i haligen telefon ya achamatai yan neniña. Pot respetu tinayuyothu kada biahe.

I kanton tasin iya Chalan Laulau lokue` hu respeta i lugat. Chamu` chumachansa dumisatentu sa` mana` kilulog hau tula noche putin tuyan. Soluke ma-amte hau suruhanu, ti un` diniñgu estake machapag giya hagu.



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Poresu na maseha ñgai`an na tiempu dañkulu respetuhu gi tafanana`an espiritu `sino animas. Ti achaiguata mina` mamirese respetu maseha gi hechuran espiritu.

Pa`gu i gima` mame maseha ñgai`an diskalentau i lugat piot ya huna` bubu i magahaga` gera. Mauleg na umapayune ham kustumbre.

■■■

Inutet Na Patgon: Umasoda-yu` yan un` inutet na patgon, taña yan udu gi alacha. Sumeha-yu` para bai` keli`e` haf` mañaña i prohimu. Sige chumaleg kulan mohon ti inutet. Puru usun señat kanai `nai ma-adiñgañgane.

Namagof sa` i famaguon matuñgu` na inutet i patgon ya kada ratu ma-asiste `sino marikonose haf` nesessidatña. Hana` chatsaga dididi` inasoda` mame layeye pot sige hu ebalua haf` mohon futunaña `an sige mona.

Kau u guaha ayudu suffisiente para guiya? Pot hu chage mañetbe kumakama na malañgu mina` hu komprende i asuntu ni binalulutan sa`pet parehu ha` para i saina yan malañgun patgoña. Hahassu i man-malañgu yan inutet siha gi tinayuyot miyu.

■■■

Ninalagun Nana: Sessu hu faisen maisa-yu` haf` na i ninalagun nana na sentada sumen mañge`? Achog hinegsa` pat kineman satdinas yan biriñgenas paire na boka maseha ñgai`an `nai ha planta. Todu mansilensiu ya duru magulusune finatinas nana. Haf` na taiguine este?

I mismu putahe guahu munalagu. Lamegai sopbla gi platun mañena guihe na pueñge. Parehu neñkanu` lau i finatinas nana i malachai. Hu repite lau parehu masusede. Hu birayu` tatte ya hu faisen maisayu` manu `nai gaige i difirensia.

Era, i ineppe gaige gi inañgoghun patgon gi as nanaña. Deste ke patgon si nanaña pumulan estake echu tautau. Estague` i difirensia, taigue gi neñkanu`. Haf` ha pacha debi u mauleg para i tropa maseha ñgai`an na tiempu. Kontodu guahu dispues tat ninalagun nanahu tihu daflogue kada ha planta gi lamasan sena.

Karadzic conviction: Genocide here, not there

The International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia last week issued its judgment against Radovan Karadzic, president of the Serb Republic during the 1992-95 Bosnian War. Karadzic was convicted of various crimes, including genocide. But only a little.

After a trial lasting seven years, the tribunal at The Hague found Karadzic guilty of genocide for his role in the murder of 8,000 unarmed Muslims at Srebrenica in the war's final months in 1995 — but not for the systematic slaughter in seven other municipalities. So he committed genocide in one place over one week, and nowhere else in the 3 1/2-year war he helped mastermind: a little genocide.

Although that result might sound shocking, it was no surprise. In 2012, the court threw out the broader genocide charge, only to be ordered to reinstate it on appeal. But with the same three judges evaluating the evidence, acquittal was a foregone conclusion.

More fundamentally, this little genocide is consistent with the tribunal's jurisprudence. In case after case, prosecutors have charged Bosnian Serbs with genocide. And in case after case, the court has acquitted indictees everywhere except Srebrenica, even when they have been convicted of other horrible crimes. Goran Jelisic, the self-described Serbian Adolf, pleaded guilty to 31 counts of crimes against humanity and war crimes in northern Bosnia, but refused to plead to genocide, and was acquitted.

Why has a broader genocide conviction proved so elusive? Prosecutors must prove that a defendant not only intended to kill or rape, usually on a mass scale, but to destroy the group to which the victims belonged as such — as a group. Yet more than evidentiary standards, it is the grotesque prestige attached to genocide that makes it such a useless tool in law: Genocide's status as the supreme crime means judges instinctively ration its moral and legal sanction.

Observers have criticized and defended the court's narrow, cautious approach. But right or not, narrowness has produced an outcome that satisfies no one, letting one site of horror and one week of slaughter stand in for a lengthy war and its countless killing fields.

Bosnian Muslims view it as an article of faith that genocide occurred throughout Bosnia. So while they welcome official confirmation of Srebrenica, they are disappointed that the tribunal has failed to recognize the full scale of their suffering. There is a political aspect too: Some Bosnian Muslims want to use a broader genocide ruling to argue that the entire Serb Republic is the product of genocide — that it could not exist without genocide — and push for its dissolution on those grounds.

For Bosnian Serbs, it's the other way around: There was no genocide, so even the finding for Srebrenica is too much. Denialism remains rife. Far from condemning Karadzic, Serbs are honoring him; just last week, the current president of the Serb Republic named a student dormitory after him.

There are still a few chances for a broader genocide conviction. The prosecution will probably appeal the acquittal, and Gen. Ratko Mladic is still on trial, charged with genocide in Srebrenica and 15 other municipalities. If the prosecution ever finally succeeded, however, a different problem would arise. How much inconsistency across its cases can the court sustain? How can the commanders be guilty, and not the midlevel officials and the foot soldiers?

Not that one consistent narrative would necessarily prove more effective, because who would listen? There is no prospect that a sweeping conviction would change hearts and minds in Bosnia's deeply divided society, where polls repeatedly show that opinions about the international court's judgments are strongly correlated with ethnicity.

By TIMOTHY WILLIAM WATERS
Los Angeles Times

Timothy William Waters is a professor of international law at Indiana University Maurer School of Law. A former researcher for the prosecution at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, he is editor of "The Milosevic Trial — An Autopsy." He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Nor is it clear that a broader finding would somehow improve the objective record, the well-documented litany of murders, rapes and depredations for which Karadzic has just been sentenced to 40 years in prison. A genocide conviction would add only a contested interpretation to that record. And a rather strange one at that, for genocide tells us that men and women died not as individuals but as members of a group, that it is their collective identity that matters. For some, that is an essential truth, but it is also an interpretation that does its own violence and veiling.

Although genocide may be a morally meaningful concept, as a legal category it is a distraction that encourages survivors, courts and the rest of us to bicker over how to name our inhumanity. But it does not motivate us to prevent great evil. What two decades of law have actually brought forth in The Hague is no monument, and no match, for the horror the court seeks to describe and circumscribe. Too little or too much, it's too late.

Karadzic's conviction comes one week after the United States officially declared that Islamic State is committing genocide in Iraq. Reflecting current fashions in thinking about law and conflict, Secretary of State John F. Kerry reflexively called for official investigations and trials, but no change in policy. If last week's judgment — more than 20 years after the end of Bosnia's war — is any indication, that's the wrong focus, especially for a genocide that is still going on.

Justice has scales, but it has a sword too. Without the latter, justice will be a long time coming, and won't have much to show, or to save, when finally it arrives. That's the real lesson of Srebrenica, and whatever happened in the rest of Bosnia: Even little genocides are too much to leave to the law.

CHILDREN

From Page 10

This phenomenon is called overdiagnosis. Screenings find cancers that did not need to be treated because they would grow slowly, if at all. Left alone, they would probably never cause problems. But it can be difficult to distinguish between trivial abnormalities and those that ultimately cause disease.

The message to all patients—even those an ocean away from Japan—who are contemplating health screenings: Testing can save lives. But it can also lead to overdiagnosis and, most damaging, overtreatment. Ask your doctor, because sometimes what you don't know may not hurt you. But what you do know might.

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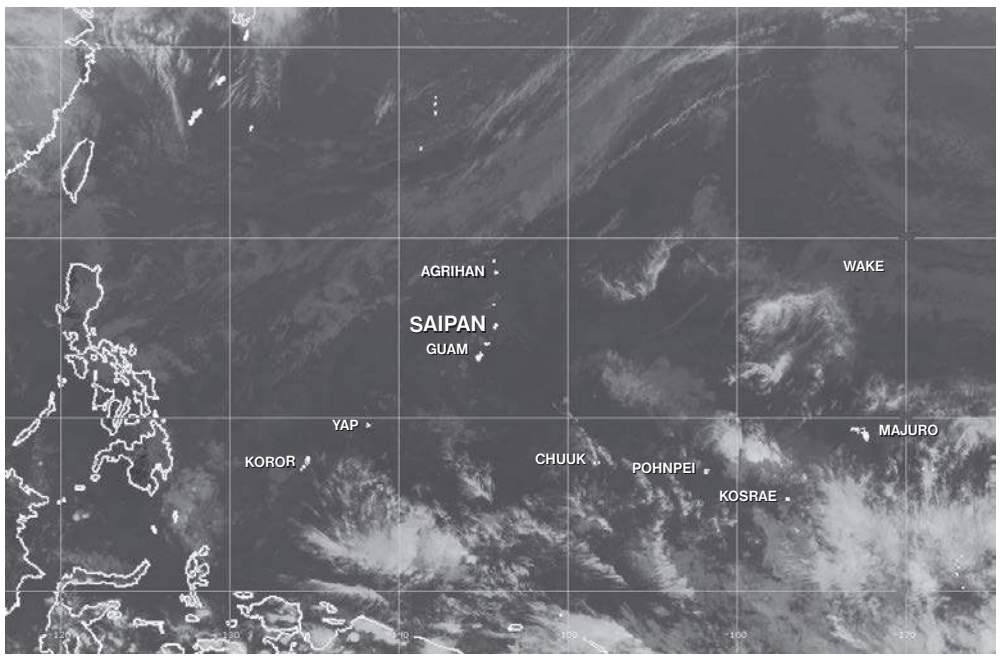
The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.
▲88º ▼76º	▲87º ▼76º	▲87º ▼75º	▲87º ▼75º	▲87º ▼75º

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A nearly stationary front curves southwestward from northwest of Minami Tori Shima at 25N151E to 20N145E, then continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 13N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are along and up to 350 miles northwest of this boundary. A surface trough southeast of Koror extends from 4N135E to EQ146E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present southeast of Koror between the equator and 4N from 136e to 144E. Another surface trough is seen north of Pohnpei, from 12N153E to 8N158E. Scattered showers are found north of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 100 miles of a line from 13N153E to 9N159E. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Majuro, south of a line from 6N166E to 6N180. A shear line curves westward through the date line at 17N, passing south of Wake Island to near 20N157E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are seen along and up to 150 miles north of the shear line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼70
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼74
Yap	Showers	▲91	▼73
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼76
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼74

Around the Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼54
Beijing	Sunny	▲73	▼23
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲70	▼48
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼66
London	Partly Cloudy	▲57	▼37
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼41
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲94	▼70
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼45
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼70
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲56	▼31
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼30
Paris	Showers	▲52	▼38
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼36
Rome	Sunny	▲70	▼46
Salem	Sunny	▲65	▼39
San Francisco	Sunny	▲62	▼59
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼36
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼42
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲64	▼34

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:21 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
5:55 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
11:07 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
6:30 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:14 AM	6:29 PM
Thursday	6:13 AM	6:29 PM
Friday	6:13 AM	6:29 PM
Saturday	6:12 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	6:30 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:56 PM	10:48 AM
Thursday	-	11:38 AM
Friday	12:47 AM	12:30 PM
Saturday	1:37 AM	1:24 PM
Sunday	2:27 AM	2:20 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM
UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Business

Justice Department cracks iPhone; withdraws legal action

WASHINGTON (AP)—The FBI said Monday it successfully used a mysterious technique without Apple Inc.'s help to hack into the iPhone used by a gunman in a mass shooting in California, effectively ending a pitched court battle between the Obama administration and one of the world's leading technology companies.

The government asked a federal judge to vacate a disputed order forcing Apple to help the FBI break into the iPhone, saying it was no longer necessary. The court filing in U.S. District Court for the Central District of California provided no details about how the FBI did it or who showed it how. The FBI is reviewing the information on the iPhone, the Justice Department said in a statement.

Apple did not immediately comment on the development.

The brief court notice left important questions unanswered: Who showed the FBI how to break into iPhones? How did the government bypass the security features that Apple has invested millions of dollars to build into its flagship product? Are newer iPhones vulnerable to the same hacking technique? Will the FBI share its information with scores of state and local police agencies that said they also need to break into the iPhones of criminal suspects? Will the FBI reveal to Apple how it broke its security? Did the FBI find anything useful on the iPhone?

AP
In this Friday, Sept. 25, 2015, file photo, an Apple iPhone 6s Plus smartphone is displayed at the Apple store at The Grove in Los Angeles.

The surprise development also punctured the temporary perception that Apple's security might have been good enough to keep consumers' personal information safe even from the U.S. government—with the tremendous resources it can expend when it wants to uncover something.

The FBI used the technique to access data on an iPhone used by gunman Syed Farook, who died with his wife in a gun battle with police after they killed 14 people in San Bernardino, California, in December. The iPhone was found in a vehicle the day after the shooting; two personal phones were found destroyed so completely that the FBI couldn't recover information from them.

U.S. magistrate Sheri Pym of California last month ordered Apple to provide the FBI with software to help it hack into Farook's work-issued iPhone. The order touched off a debate pitting digital privacy rights against national security concerns.

Apple was headed for a courtroom showdown with the government last week, until federal prosecutors abruptly asked for a postponement so they could test a potential solution brought to them by a party outside of the U.S. government last Sunday. Technical experts had said there might be a few ways an outsider could gain access to the phone, but the FBI insisted repeatedly until then that only Apple had the ability to override the iPhone's security. FBI Director James Comey said the bureau even went to the National Security Agency, which did not have the ability to get into the phone.

A law enforcement official said the FBI was successful in unlocking the iPhone over the weekend. The official spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to publicly comment. The official said federal law enforcement would continue to aid its local and state partners with gaining evidence in cases—implying that the method would be shared with them.

First in line is likely, Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance, who told a U.S. House panel earlier this month that he has 205 iPhones his investigators can't access data from in criminal investigations. Apple is also opposing requests to help extract information from 14 Apple devices in California, Illinois, Massachusetts and New York.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Pandora co-founder Tim Westergren returns as CEO

NEW YORK (AP)—Pandora, which is facing increasing competition from Apple Music, Spotify and other music streaming services, said CEO Brian McAndrews has left the company and has been replaced with co-founder Tim Westergren. Shares of Pandora fell sharply after the news was announced Monday morning. The company did not say why McAndrews left. He has been Pandora CEO for less than three years. A Pandora spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Westergren co-founded the Internet radio company 16 years ago and led Pandora as CEO from 2002 to 2004.

FBI probing virus behind outage at MedStar Health facilities

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hackers crippled computer systems Monday at a major hospital chain, MedStar Health Inc., forcing records systems offline for thousands of patients and doctors. The FBI said it was investigating whether the unknown hackers demanded a ransom to restore systems. A computer virus paralyzed some operations at Washington-area hospitals and doctors' offices, leaving patients unable to book appointments and staff locked out of their email accounts. Some employees were required to turn off all computers since Monday morning. A law enforcement official said the FBI was assessing whether the virus was so-called ransomware, in which hackers extort money in exchange for returning a victim's systems to normal. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to discuss publicly details about the ongoing criminal investigation.

California's $15/hour wage could help workers, cost jobs

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—A political deal to raise California's minimum wage to a nation-leading $15 an hour could help some workers cope with the state's crushing cost of living but also deprive other low-wage earners of jobs altogether, economists said Monday as Gov. Jerry Brown and other leaders touted what would be a landmark agreement.

California's economy is larger than that of most countries, with a wide diversity of earners. While newly minted millionaires gentrify neighborhoods in the San Francisco Bay Area, some Central Valley field hands lack access to clean water. A jump from the current $10 an hour spread over six years would affect millions.

Rafael Gutierrez, a 53-year-old farmworker, said the increase would let him treat his family to weekend dinners out and a short vacation to Disneyland from his home in Fresno County.

His last job picking peaches and grapes paid $11 an hour. His girlfriend makes $14 an hour at Target. Though their region is far from California's costliest, "Right now, we're just making it," Gutierrez said. "Life is expensive."

And then there are employers such as Chuck Herrin, owner of Sunrise Farm Labor, which provides roughly 2,500 workers each year in the San Joaquin Valley. Herrin predicted that farmers would hire 10 percent fewer workers because of the higher cost of business.

Ex-executive at investment bank charged in $95M fraud scheme

NEW YORK (AP)—An Ivy League-educated former executive at a New York investment bank was arrested Monday on charges he tried to defraud investors of more than $95 million as he led what a prosecutor called a "shameful charade" to cover his tracks.

Andrew Caspersen, 39, was charged in Manhattan federal court with securities and wire fraud after his Saturday arrest. Prosecutors said he scammed clients of PJT Partners Inc. into investing millions of dollars in sham private equity investments from July through March. After an initial court appearance, he was released on $5 million bail.

Dan Levy, a lawyer for Caspersen, declined comment outside court.

Caspersen has homes in New York City and suburban Bronxville, New York. He is the son of Finn M.W. Caspersen, a prominent philanthropist and former chief executive of the financial services firm Beneficial Corp. The elder Caspersen was found dead in 2009 of what authorities said was a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

PJT Partners released a statement saying it was "stunned and outraged" to discover the fraud while Caspersen was a partner in its Park Hill Group.

It said it referred the matter to federal prosecutors after learning facts suggesting improper behavior.

"To advance his $95 million fraud scheme, Caspersen allegedly put on a shameful charade—creating fake email addresses, setting up misleading domain names, and inventing fictional financiers," U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara said in a press statement. "When confronted by a suspicious client who had invested $25 million, Caspersen had no good answers."

The Securities and Exchange Commission also filed civil charges against Caspersen, seeking a return of ill-gotten gains with interest and monetary penalties. It said that after graduating from Princeton University in 1999 and Harvard Law School in 2002, Caspersen was a principal at a private equity firm in London before he became a managing principal in January 2013 at the New York firm.

Nation

Man shot by police after drawing weapon at US Capitol

WASHINGTON (AP)—Police shot a man on Monday after he pulled a weapon at a U.S. Capitol checkpoint as spring tourists thronged Washington, authorities said. The suspect was previously known to police, who last October arrested him for disrupting House proceedings and yelling he was a "Prophet of God."

U.S. Capitol Police identified the man as 66-year-old Larry R. Dawson of Tennessee. He was charged with assault with a deadly weapon and assault on a police officer while armed, both criminal offenses in the District of Columbia.

Dawson was taken to a local hospital, where police said he was in stable but critical condition. A female bystander also sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

After his arrest last year, Dawson was issued a "stay away order" by D.C. Superior Court in October, telling him to keep away from the Capitol grounds, court documents show.

AP
First responders transport the person believed to be the suspect in a shooting at the U.S. Capitol complex Monday, March 28, 2016, in Washington. The suspect's face was digitally altered by the Washington Post at the request of the Washington D.C. Fire and EMS Department.

The U.S. Capitol was on lockdown for about an hour Monday and the White House also was briefly locked down. As the capital teemed with spring tourists in town to view the cherry blossoms, staff members and visitors to the Capitol were rushed into offices and told to shelter in place.

"We do believe this is an act of a single person who has frequented the Capitol grounds before and there is no reason to believe that this is anything more than a criminal act," Capitol Chief of Police Matthew R. Verderosa told reporters. He said it was unclear how many officers fired their guns. Initial reports had said an officer was injured but that proved wrong.

Verderosa said the suspect's vehicle had been found on Capitol grounds and was being seized. On Monday evening, all roads had been reopened and the U.S. Capitol complex had returned to normal operations, officials said in a statement.

George Washington University Hospital spokeswoman Susan Griffiths said it had treated one patient from the Capitol incident for minor injuries and planned to release the patient shortly, but she did not identify the person.

Monday's event unfolded with Congress on recess and lawmakers back in their districts. House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., issued a statement thanking Capitol Police, as did other congressional leaders. "This evening our thoughts and prayers are with all those who faced danger today," Ryan said.

According to court documents, Dawson was arrested at the U.S. Capitol in October after he stood up and shouted Bible verses in the gallery of the House chamber. An online court record says he was charged with disorderly and disruptive conduct on the grounds of the Capitol and assaulting, resisting or interfering with a police officer. He was also ordered to stay away from the building and grounds.

Dawson did not return for a scheduled hearing in November. In a letter filed with his case, he says he will "not comply with the court order, nor will I surrender myself unto your office."

Obama to address nation's growing opioid problem

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration will issue a proposed rule Tuesday that aims to increase medication-based treatment for tens of thousands of people addicted to opioids.

The proposed rule, along with a commitment from 60 medical schools to heighten training for prescribing opioids, will coincide with President Barack Obama's visit to Atlanta where he will participate in a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Sanjay Gupta at the National Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit.

Opioids are highly addictive drugs that include both prescription painkillers like codeine and morphine, as well as illegal narcotics, primarily heroin. Deaths linked to opioids soared to more than 29,000 in 2014, the highest number on record.

Congress is attempting to allocate more resources to confront the problem—one of few areas where lawmakers from both parties might reach agreement during the election year. Obama is seeking $1.1 billion in new federal funds to expand treatment for opioid addiction, which is about triple current levels.

Michael Botticelli, director of the National Drug Control Policy at the White House, told reporters in advance of the president's trip that the extra money being sought is an acknowledgement from Obama that "there is still a significant treatment gap for people who need it." Most of the money would fund agreements with states to expand medication-assisted treatment.

Along those lines, the Department of Health and Human Services will issue a proposed rule allowing physicians who prescribe Buprenorphine to give it to more patients. The proposed rule would expand the limit from 100 patients to 200.

The department also will issue guidance to programs that allow intravenous drug addicts to trade dirty syringes for clean ones in hopes of preventing disease. Congress recently allowed federal money to be used for certain expenses, such as staff and equipment, but not for the syringes themselves.

Officials also are focused on better educating prescribers. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently issued new guidelines stating that physical therapy, exercise and over-the-counter pain medication should be used before turning to painkillers like morphine and oxycodone. Sixty universities will announce that their students will have to learn prescriber information in line with the new guidelines in order to graduate.

ACROSS THE NATION

FBI probing virus behind outage at MedStar Health facilities

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hackers crippled computer systems Monday at a major hospital chain, MedStar Health Inc., forcing records systems offline for thousands of patients and doctors. The FBI said it was investigating whether the unknown hackers demanded a ransom to restore systems. A computer virus paralyzed some operations at Washington-area hospitals and doctors' offices, leaving patients unable to book appointments and staff locked out of their email accounts. Some employees were required to turn off all computers since Monday morning. A law enforcement official said the FBI was assessing whether the virus was so-called ransomware, in which hackers extort money in exchange for returning a victim's systems to normal. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to discuss publicly details about the ongoing criminal investigation.

Utah governor signs bill requiring abortion anesthesia

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—The governor signed a bill Monday that makes Utah the first state to require doctors to give anesthesia to women having an abortion at 20 weeks of pregnancy or later. The bill signed by Republican Gov. Gary Herbert is based on the disputed premise that a fetus can feel pain at that point. Many doctors in Utah and across the country are concerned that the requirement could increase the health risks to women by giving them unnecessary heavy sedation in order to protect a fetus from pain that it may or may not feel. Dr. Sean Esplin of Intermountain Healthcare in Utah said anesthesia or an analgesic would need to go through the woman in order to reach the fetus. Doctors could give a woman general anesthesia, which would make her unconscious and likely require a breathing tube, or a heavy dose of narcotics.

Alaska volcano ash cloud covers 400 miles and cancels flights

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Strong winds Monday pushed an ash cloud from an Alaska volcano into the heart of the state, grounding flights and limiting travel to western and northern communities off the road system.

Pavlof Volcano, one of Alaska's most active volcanoes, is 625 miles southwest of Anchorage on the Alaska Peninsula, the finger of land that sticks out from mainland Alaska toward the Aleutian Islands.

The volcano in the 8,261-foot mountain erupted about 4 p.m. Sunday, spitting out an ash cloud that rose to 20,000 feet.

Lightning over the mountain and pressure sensors indicated eruptions continued overnight By 7 a.m. Monday, the ash cloud had risen to 37,000 feet and winds to 50 mph or more had stretched it over more than 400 miles into interior Alaska.

"It's right in the wheelhouse of a lot of flights crisscrossing Alaska," said geologist Chris Waythomas, of the U.S. Geological Survey, part of the Alaska Volcano Observatory, along with the University of Alaska and the state Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys.

Alaska Airlines on Monday afternoon said it cancelled 41 flights affecting about 3,300 customers heading to Fairbanks, Bethel, Kotzebue, Nome, Barrow and Deadhorse. The airline said it will resume its 54 regularly scheduled flights on Tuesday if conditions improve.

Volcanic ash is angular and sharp and has been used as an industrial abrasive. The powdered rock can cause a jet engine to shut down. USGS geologists have compared it to flying into a sand blaster.

Source: AP
Graphic: Tribune News Service

Asia

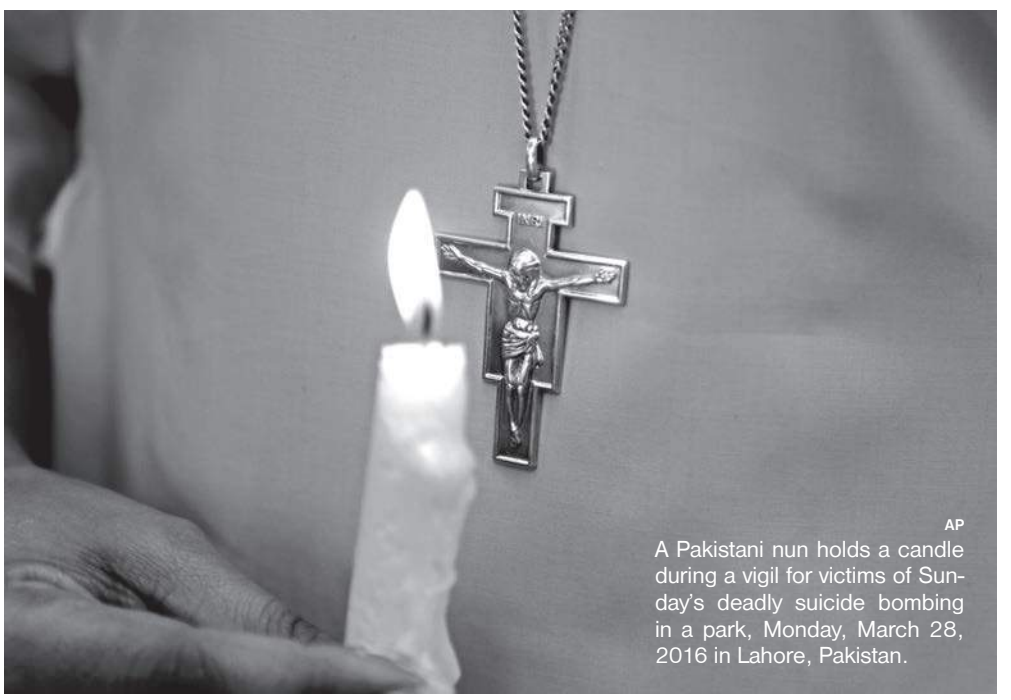
Pakistan PM vows to fight terror after 70 died in Lahore

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistan's prime minister on Monday vowed to eliminate perpetrators of terror attacks such as the massive suicide bombing that targeted Christians gathered for Easter the previous day in the eastern city of Lahore, killing 70 people.

The attack underscored both the militants' ability to stage large-scale attacks despite a months-long government offensive against them and the precarious position of Pakistan's minority Christians. A breakaway Taliban faction, which publicly supports the Islamic State group, has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Meanwhile, in the capital of Islamabad, extremists protested for a second day outside Parliament and other key buildings in the city center. The demonstrators set cars on fire, demanding that authorities impose Islamic law or Sharia. The army, which was deployed Sunday to contain the rioters, remained out on the streets.

The military reported raids in eastern Punjab province, where several deadly militant organizations are headquartered, and said dozens were arrested. Also Monday, Pakistan started observing a three-day mourning period declared after the Lahore attack.



AP

A Pakistani nun holds a candle during a vigil for victims of Sunday's deadly suicide bombing in a park, Monday, March 28, 2016 in Lahore, Pakistan.

The Lahore bombing took place in a park that was crowded with families, with many women and children among the victims. At least 300 people were wounded in the bombing.

Even though a breakaway Taliban group, known as Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, said it specifically targeted Pakistan's Christian community, most of those killed in Lahore were Muslims, who were also gathered in the park for the Sunday weekend holiday. The park is a popular spot in the heart of Lahore.

Of the dead, 14 have been identified as Christians and 44 as Muslim, according to Lahore Police Superintendent Mohammed Iqbal. Another 12 bodies have not yet been identified, he said.

Ahsanullah Ahsan, a spokesman for the breakaway Taliban faction, told The Associated Press late Sunday that along with striking Christians celebrating Easter, the attack also meant to protest Pakistan's military operation in the tribal regions. The same militant group also took responsibility for the twin bombings of a Christian Church in Lahore last year.

In recent weeks, Pakistan's Islamist parties have been threatening widespread demonstration to protest what they say is Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's pro-Western stance. They have also denounced provincial draft legislation in Punjab outlawing violence against women.

Sharif had earlier this month officially recognized holidays celebrated by the country's minority religions, the Hindu festival of Holi and the Christian holiday of Easter.

After a meeting with his security officials Monday, the prime minister called the perpetrators of the Lahore attack "cowards" and vowed to defeat the "extremist mindset." Sharif also cancelled a planned trip to Great Britain.

In Lahore, dozens of families were bidding final farewell to their slain kin during funeral ceremonies Monday.

Shama Pervez, widowed mother of 11-year-old Sahil Pervez who died in the blast, was inconsolable during funeral prayers. Her son, a fifth grader at a local Catholic school, had pleaded with her to go to the park rather than stay home on Sunday, and she said she finally gave in.

On the outskirts of Lahore, in the Christian area of Youhanabad, mourners crowded into a church that was targeted in an attack a year ago.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Japan sticks to non-nuclear arms pledge after Trump remark

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's government said Monday that it will stick to its policy of not possessing nuclear weapons, after U.S. presidential hopeful Donald Trump said he would be open to the idea of Japan and South Korea having their own atomic arsenals. Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters that the country's "three principles" of not owning, making or allowing nuclear weapons "remain an important basic policy of the government." Trump said in an interview with The New York Times published Sunday that asking Japan and South Korea to pay more for their own defense "could mean nuclear." He said the issue "at some point is something that we have to talk about."

Bangladesh court rejects removing Islam as state religion

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—Bangladesh's top court rejected a 28-year-old petition Monday to remove Islam as the official religion of the Muslim-majority South Asian nation. The decision by the three-judge High Court panel had been widely expected. The court said the 15-member group that filed the petition in 1988 has no legitimacy because it was never registered with authorities. Government lawyers said the court's rejection means that Islam will remain Bangladesh's official religion, and that equal rights for minority religions guaranteed by the constitution will not be affected.

Girl escapes 2-year captivity in Japan; police arrest man

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese police early Monday caught a 23-year-old man who had been sought since a teenage girl escaped his apartment after being held captive for nearly two years. The girl's disappearance from her hometown in Saitama, near Tokyo, when she was just 13, was major news in Japan at the time. Police said the now-15-year-old girl escaped from suspect Kabu Terauchi's apartment in downtown Tokyo on Sunday while he was shopping in Akihabara, a district known for technology and comic book geeks. Saitama police said the girl, whose name was withheld because she is a minor, told investigators that she escaped when her captor forgot to lock the door.

North Korean nuclear threats spotlight US missile defense

WASHINGTON (AP)—As North Korea rattles its nuclear saber, threatening to bomb the U.S. at "any moment," a nerve-jangling question hangs in the air: If Pyongyang did launch a nuclear-armed missile at an American city, could the Pentagon's missile defenses overcome their spotty test record and shoot it down beyond U.S. shores?

America has never faced such a real-life crisis, and although officials say they are confident the defenses would work as advertised, the Pentagon acknowledges potential gaps that North Korea or others might be able to exploit, someday if not immediately.

One possible vulnerability involves a foe's "countermeasures," or decoys carried aboard long-range offensive missiles to fool a U.S. interceptor missile into hitting the wrong target.

The Pentagon has poured at least $84 billion into missile defense over the past decade and is planning to spend another $3.3 billion over the next five years for a single element of the system, known as Ground-based Midcourse Defense, or GMD. Its key part is a network of interceptor missiles designed to launch from underground silos, fly into the path of an enemy missile as it arcs through space and smash into it, destroying it.

That system has failed three of its last four intercept tests. The only success in that series was the most recent test, in June 2014.

A congressional watchdog agency, the Government Accountability Office, said in February that the Pentagon "has not demonstrated through flight testing that it can defend the U.S. homeland against the current missile defense threat."

Adm. William Gortney, America's homeland defender as head of U.S. Northern Command, told Congress this month that the nation needs "more capable forces and broader options." Key improvements are in the works, including a "long-range discrimination" radar for more effective tracking of incoming missiles.

The North Koreans' harsh rhetoric, including a threat in late February to deal "fatal blows at the U.S. mainland any moment," is linked in part to its anger at U.S.-South Korean military exercises, which the North sees as a rehearsal for an invasion.

Obama seeing China leader as South China Sea tensions rise

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama will be meeting with Asian leaders in Washington this week as fears grow that long-smoldering tensions on the Korean Peninsula and in the South China Sea risk flaring into conflict.

World leaders, including those from China, Japan and South Korea, will be in town for a summit hosted by Obama on nuclear security—the final round in the U.S. president's drive for international action to stop materials that could be used for an atomic weapon or dirty bomb from getting into terrorist hands.

But other pressing security issues will be up for discussion on the sidelines of the two-day gathering that starts Thursday.

Obama will on Thursday meet separately with China's President Xi Jinping at a time when frictions between the two world powers over China's island-building in strategic waters are growing and look set to intensify with an upcoming ruling from an international tribunal on Beijing's sweeping territorial claims.

The U.S. president is also meeting with the leaders of Japan and South Korea. Washington is looking for an elusive unity between its core allies in Asia as threats from North Korea reach fever-pitch after Pyongyang was stung with tough sanctions in response to its recent nuclear test and rocket launch.

Obama will be urging China to implement the U.N. sanctions it signed up to for use against North Korea, its traditional ally. For his part, Xi will want the U.S. to restart negotiations with the authoritarian government of Kim Jong Un, which has been touting progress in miniaturizing nuclear devices and missile technology that could directly threaten America.

With Obama's presidency in its final year, there's uncertainty among Asian nations on what the next administration will portend. Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump is calling for Japan and South Korea to pay more for U.S. military protection, and is advocating a tougher trade policy toward China.

During his seven years in office, Obama has deepened engagement with Asia, despite the huge distraction of chaos in the Middle East. The U.S. and China have cooperated on issues like climate change and nuclear security, even as their strategic rivalry has grown. The U.S. is a major player in China's fast-growing nuclear industry, and this month, the U.S. and China opened a center in Beijing to train technicians and scientists from across the Asia-Pacific on nuclear security.

World

Belgian police hunt airport suspect; victim toll rises to 35

BRUSSELS (AP)—As the number of victims in the Brussels suicide attacks rose to 35, Belgian police released a video of a mysterious man in a dark hat seen in the company of the bombers who attacked Brussels Airport, indicating that he is still at large.

"Police are seeking to identify this man," the Belgian Federal Police's website said Monday.

The video's release came as a Belgian magistrate also ruled that a man identified as Faycal C., who was arrested during the police raids that followed the March 22 attacks, could be released.

Faycal C. was among those taken into custody and facing preliminary terror charges. Belgian media reported the man was the mysterious suspect in the white jacket and dark hat spotted with the two bombers at the airport the morning of the attacks.

But the Belgian magistrate ruled that new evidence uncovered by investigators revealed there were no grounds to keep Faycal C. in custody and he was released, the Belgian Federal Prosecutor's Office said.

AP

An airport worker uses a tissue to wipe her eyes during an ecumenical service for the victims of the Brussels bomb attacks at the Cathedral of St. Michael and St. Gudula in Brussels, Monday, March 28, 2016.

The Belgian Federal Police's website posted a 32-second video of the still-unidentified suspect as he wheels baggage through the terminal alongside the bombers.

"If you recognize this individual or you have information concerning this attack, please contact investigators," police asked.

Tensions remain high in the city, particularly in the Brussels suburb of Molenbeek, where several of those involved in both the attacks on Brussels and those in Paris last November, hailed from.

Jamal Ikazban, a member of the Molenbeek council, tweeted Monday that young people in the neighborhood were being sent text messages by recruiters. Ikazban did not provide further details, beyond writing that "We must ensure these recruiters can do no more damage."

Belgian authorities also announced that three more people swept up in police raids that followed the attacks on the airport and on a Brussels subway train were being held on charges of participating in terrorist activities.

It was not clear if the suspects ordered held by an investigating judge were linked to the attacks themselves. The three—identified by Belgian prosecutors as Yassine A., Mohamed B. and Aboubaker O.—were detained during 13 police searches Sunday in Brussels and the northern cities of Mechelen and Duffel.

The federal prosecutors' office provided no details of the alleged actions committed by the suspects and released a fourth person without charge.

The bombings, the bloodiest in recent Belgian history, were claimed by the Islamic State extremist group and confirmed Belgium's status as an unwitting rear base from which Muslim extremists can stage attacks in Europe. Many of those responsible for the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris that killed 130 people and wounded hundreds came from Belgium.

Four more people wounded in the Brussels attacks died in the hospital, Belgian Health Minister Maggie De Block announced on her Twitter account Monday.

She posted: "Four patients deceased in hospital. Medical teams did all possible. Total victims: 35. Courage to all the families."

De Block had reported over the weekend that 101 of the 270 wounded in the blasts were still being treated in hospitals, including 32 in burn units. A doctor at one of those burn units who had once served in Afghanistan described patients' wounds as shocking.

One week after the devastating attacks, which severely damaged Brussels Airport's departure area, the facility is planning to test its capacity to partially resume passenger service.

Florence Muls, an airport communications manager, said 800 staff members on Tuesday will test temporary infrastructure and new arrangements designed to handle passenger check-ins.

It's too early to say when airport service might actually resume, she said, adding that government and firefighters must approve the new system before Brussels Airport can start handling passenger traffic again.

Greece to set up loudspeakers at border camp

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—The Greek government said Monday it will set up loudspeakers at the country's border with Macedonia to try and persuade thousands of refugees and migrants to ignore false rumors that the Balkan route to central Europe will reopen.

More than 15,000 people—nearly a third of the total stranded in Greece—are refusing to move to government-built shelters around the country, and remain at the border with Macedonia and at the port of Piraeus, near Athens.

A spokesman for a government refugee crisis committee said authorities were struggling to counter false rumors on social media that borders could reopen.

"People who are under strain and living in difficult conditions are receiving false reports ... when people are desperate, rumors spread like wildfire," Kyritsis told state television.

"We are sending a team of translators (to the border) and loudspeakers will be set up to make public announcements," he said.

Macedonia's parliament, meanwhile, voted Monday to extend the state of emergency in regions bordering Greece and Serbia till the end of the year because of the ongoing migrant crisis.

The vote allows continued deployment of the army along the border with Greece to patrol a recently built fence that lines the frontier.

Over the weekend, Greece's armed forces set up more shelter places at various sites around the country.

The country is struggling to implement an agreement between the European Union and Turkey that would see refugees and migrants sent back to Turkey from Greek islands. However, the deal requires the deployment of hundreds of European migration officers and others for the deal to work.

More than 2,000 people who reached the islands after March 20 have been detained to await deportation and continued their protests Monday on the islands of Chios and Lesbos, where they chanted "we want freedom."

Protests intensified when Public Order Minister Nikos Toskas visited the two sites.

He said the number of migrants arriving in Greece had fallen steadily since March 20.

"It is clear that Turkey can control the situation and it has done so in accordance with the agreement," Toskas said. "It remains to be seen in the coming days whether that will continue.

Brazil ex-president Silva says Rousseff can stop impeachment

SAO PAULO (AP)—Former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said Monday that he believes his embattled successor and protege can survive mounting pressure in Congress for her impeachment.

Silva told international journalists that President Dilma Rousseff will be able to resist even if leaders of a major ally, the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, announce its members are leaving her governing coalition as expected Tuesday. Both Silva and Rousseff belong to the Workers Party.

Rousseff recently appointed Silva as her chief of staff in a much-discussed move that still must be confirmed by Brazil's top court.

Silva said he will ask Democratic Movement's president and the country's vice president, Michel Temer, who is a member of Democratic Movement, to help Rousseff keep her job despite the plunge in her popularity amid Brazil's worst recession in decades and corruption scandals.

"No one likes to support an administration that is not doing well with public opinion," Silva said. "But we need to keep talking to" the Democratic Movement.

If Rousseff was impeached for breaking fiscal laws, Temer would assume the presidency.

Tourism Minister Henrique Alves, a member of the Democratic Movement, submitted his resignation late Tuesday. Alves, a Temer ally, said he was following the "greatest challenge" faced by his party, which is led by Temer.

"The dialogue, I'm afraid to admit, has exhausted," he said in a letter to Rousseff.

A recent poll by the respected Datafolha institute said 68 percent of Brazilians favor Rousseff's impeachment, but only 11 percent believe they would be better off under Temer.

Silva again denied the claims that he joined Rousseff's government to avoid arrest on corruption charges. After Rousseff named him chief of staff two weeks ago, a legal move stopped Silva from taking the post, which would protect him from any prosecution except in the country's top court. The court is expected to make a final decision next week.

WORLD BRIEFS

Fire breaks out at United Arab Emirates skyscraper

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A fire raced up a high-rise tower in the United Arab Emirates city of Ajman late Monday, the latest in a series of skyscraper blazes in the Gulf nation that is home to the world's tallest building. Images shared on social media showed bright yellow flames spreading up the side of the building as chunks of burning material tumbled to the ground. The Emirati interior minister, Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, rushed to Ajman to help coordinate the response to the blaze, Ajman police said. There were no immediate reports of casualties. Ajman is home to many commuters who work in the Gulf commercial hub of Dubai, further to the south. Like Dubai, it is one of the seven emirates that make up the UAE federation.

Azerbaijan frees rights activist after 2 years in prison

BAKU, Azerbaijan (AP)—A court in Azerbaijan has ordered the release of a human rights activist who spent the last two years in jail. Intigam Aliyev was convicted last year of economic crimes that critics have dismissed as retaliation for his work. His lawyer, Fariz Namazly, said the Supreme Court of this former Soviet republic issued a ruling Monday converting Aliyev's seven-year prison sentence into a five-year conditional one, meaning his immediate release. The ruling comes amid a flurry of other court decisions that triggered the release of 16 activists and journalists this month who have spent years in prison. The Caspian Sea nation has come under criticism for a crackdown on human rights, with journalists and activists hit with charges they say are retaliation for their work exposing official abuses.

Focus

ERIKA KINETZ,
Associated Press
TIA GOLDENBERG,
Associated Press
DANIEL ESTRIN,
Associated Press
RAPHAEL SATTER,
Associated Press

AP
Gilbert Chikli, 50, and his wife Shirly Chikli, 31, pose for a photo at their home in Ashdod, Israel, Monday, March 28, 2016. Chikli, a visionary fraudster, ripped off some of the world's biggest corporations, and then laundered millions in China, which is serving as a massive money laundering machine for foreign criminals, an AP investigation has found.

AP Investigation:

How con man used China to launder millions

ASHDOD, Israel (AP)—Gilbert Chikli was rolling in money, stolen from some of the world's biggest corporations. His targets: Accenture. Disney. American Express. In less than two years, he made off with at least 6.1 million euros from France alone.

But he had a problem. He couldn't spend the money. A tangle of banking rules designed to stop con men like him stood between Chikli and his cash. He needed to find a weak link in the global financial system, a place to make his stolen money appear legitimate.

He found it in China.

"China has become a universal, international gateway for all manner of scams," he said in an interview with The Associated Press. "Because China today is a world power, because it doesn't care about neighboring countries, and because, overall, China is flipping off other countries in a big way."

A visionary con man, Chikli realized early on—around 2000, the year before China joined the World Trade Organization—the potential that lay in the shadows of China's rise, its entrenched corruption and informal banking channels that date back over 1,000 years. The French-Israeli man told the AP he laundered 90 percent of his money through China and Hong Kong, slipping it into the region's great tides of legitimate trade and finance.

Today, he is in good company.

Criminals around the world have discovered that a good way to liberate their dirty money is to send it to China, which is emerging as an international hub for money laundering, an AP investigation has found. Gangs from Israel and Spain, North African cannabis dealers and cartels from Mexico and Colombia are among those using China as a haven where they can safely hide money, clean it, and pump it back into the global financial system, according to police officials, European and U.S. court records and intelligence documents reviewed by the AP.

China's central bank and police refused repeated requests for comment.

In a regular briefing with reporters Monday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said the government "places great emphasis" on fighting crimes such as money laundering and is working to expand international cooperation. "China is not, has not been, nor will be in the future a center of global money laundering," he said.

Chikli is widely credited in France with inventing a con that has inspired a generation of copycats. Chikli's scam, called the fake president or fake CEO scam, has cost companies around the world $1.8 billion in just over two years, according to the FBI. And the damages are rising fast.

Security cameras poke over the high wooden fence that encircles Chikli's property, a sleek, three-story home in Ashdod, a port city on the Mediterranean. Beyond that, a swing set, pink-and-purple tricycle and orange ball jumble his lawn. And then there is Chikli himself, tan and smiling at his massive front door. He was sentenced in absentia to seven years in prison by a French court last year and remains a wanted man, but here in Israel, he lives openly and talked about his criminal exploits with pride during four hours of interviews with the AP.

"It's the power of persuasion," he said. "It's not easy to turn the head of a bank president."

Dirty money has long washed through China, but has been viewed primarily as a domestic problem. Now, mounting evidence shows that non-Chinese criminals are learning to tap entrenched, sophisticated Chinese systems to move money illegally- largely beyond the reach of Western law enforcement.

China's underground financial systems are of rising concern to top policymakers there, who are struggling to stem massive capital flight as the economy slows. Despite strict currency controls, a record net $711 billion gushed out of China last year, not counting foreign direct investment, according to estimates by Fitch Ratings.

A lot of that money leaks out illegally. Corporations undervalue exports or overvalue imports to move capital abroad, for example. Money changers and underground banks routinely help mainland Chinese slip cash out of the country in excess of the official $50,000-a-year limit. Global Financial Integrity, a Washington-D.C. non-profit, ranks China as the world's largest exporter of illicit money.

"Wherever I go in the world, there is a growing Chinese presence," said John Cassara, a former financial intelligence agent at the U.S. Treasury Department. "It's only natural that the Chinese are going to bring their financial systems with them—their above-board financial systems and their underground systems."

"It's completely off the radar screen," Cassara said. "No one knows about it."

But Chikli knew.

"Gilbert Chikli knows that China is a springboard to be able to bounce money off of," said the con man, who often spoke of himself in the third person. "It's not a secret. The whole world knows that China is a hub for sending and receiving money."

THE 'FAKE CEO SCAM'

The first con, the one that made Chikli realize he had "the gift," began in Paris on the afternoon of July 25, 2005, with a phone call.

When Madame G., who ran a branch of La Banque Postale, picked up the phone, a man with a sure, powerful voice said he was the bank's CEO and needed her help on a top-secret terrorism investigation, French court documents show. He dropped details about past meetings that left Madame G., whose name cannot be published due to French privacy laws, convinced of his identity. The man told her a secret agent named Paul would be in touch.

Following instructions, Madame G. bought a burner phone to communicate with Paul. Over the next three days, he hammered her with 43 calls.

Some of the bank's clients, Paul explained, were suspected of running money for terrorists. Less than three weeks earlier, four suicide bombers linked to al-Qaida blew themselves up in central London, killing 52 people and injuring 700 more. Photographs of bloody, burned commuters staggering from the London Underground were everywhere.

Paul told Madame G. he needed the names of the bank's biggest clients. He wanted her to bring him cash. He would scan the bills to see if they were stolen, then they'd meet at a bistro on Rue de la Paix and he'd return the money. She was a key player in a major anti-terrorism operation.

He was counting on her.

On July 28, Madame G. stuffed 358,000 euros ($398,000) in a bag and took a taxi to a cafe in eastern Paris. She walked into a stall in the restroom. She heard a woman say the secret password. Madame G. passed the cash-filled bag under the stall. Mission accomplished.

Then she went to the bistro on Rue de la Paix and waited on the terrace. But where was Paul?

After she went to the police, investigators eventually traced the calls to Chikli. Paul was, in Chikli's telling, just one of his many stage names. The woman who took the cash in the bathroom was Chikli's mistress. Chikli's brother, Simon, drove the getaway car, according to French court documents.

Back then, it was a game to Chikli. But if he wanted to get more money than would fit in a sack, he had to take his criminal ambitions global.

Banks are supposed to know their customers—not just their identities, but also where their money comes from. To scale up his fraud, Chikli needed a way around international anti-money laundering norms.

He had a number of options for cleaning his cash. Chikli called HSBC and tricked an employee into sending money to one of his Hong Kong front companies, which bounced it to a guy in Fujian province, who told investigators that he often used his bank account to launder money for Israelis, in

See AP INVESTIGATION on Page 18

AP INVESTIGATION

From Page 17

exchange for a 5 percent commission. Police traced tens of thousands in transfers from Chikli front companies to Bank of China accounts.

The Bank of China refused to comment.

But Chikli's preferred method, which he described for the first time in detail to the AP, was to use import-export schemes.

Such trade-based money laundering is a growing concern for U.S. authorities. Mexican and Colombian drug cartels laundered more than $5 billion in drug proceeds in part by exporting counterfeit goods from China, according to a U.S. Justice Department indictment against three Colombians based in Guangzhou.

Chikli ordered companies to send money to bank accounts around the world—often, he said, in Eastern Europe. Then, he'd bounce the funds to Hong Kong and China and arrange for them to be withdrawn in cash. The money was used to purchase merchandise—shoes, gold, steel, textiles—in China. For a commission, the Chinese vendor then issued highly inflated receipts to Chikli's shell companies, creating a "legal" paper trail. Typically, Chikli said, he'd actually buy some goods, while forwarding most of his cash to another account he controlled. He might purchase, say, 20 tons of steel, but bribe the vendor to give him a receipt for 100 tons.

Chikli sold the goods and then sent the money to Israel, where false invoices made the entire sum look like legitimate trading profits, he said.

"Everything is clean," he said. "Give me the documents and everything is fine."

THE WASHING MACHINE

Chikli used to run a clothing company in Sentier, a late 18th-century Paris neighborhood built atop a medieval slum. Sentier was once a neighborhood for strivers—first Jews from Eastern Europe and North Africa, then Chinese who moved into the wholesale textile trade. Chikli forged the idea for his scam on these streets.

The tools of his trade are simple: telephones. Chikli called the company that runs Disneyland Paris, pretending to be the CEO. He called French technology conglomerate Thomson SA and persuaded an employee to transfer millions to accounts in Russia, Switzerland and England. He called Barclays, Galeries Lafayette, American Express.

Eventually, French authorities caught up with him and put him on trial for dozens of attempted frauds, many thwarted only at the last moment. In 2009, Chikli posted 30,000 euros ($33,500) bail. His passport was confiscated and he was ordered to remain in France to stand trial. Instead, he chartered a private plane, he claims, and fled to Israel.

A French court found him guilty last May of defrauding La Banque Postale, LCL bank and HSBC, along with Thomson and Accenture, out of 6.1 million euros, and attempting to extract over 70 million euros from at least 33 others. But by then, he was living by the sea in Ashdod.

It was, perhaps, his most masterful con of all.

Israeli authorities would not say whether France had made a formal request for Chikli's extradition. French judicial officials have not responded to repeated requests for clarification on the status of any extradition request related to Chikli. Israel and France share no bilateral extradition treaty, but Israel has surrendered French citizens in some cases.

Israeli authorities also declined to explain why Chikli is able to live freely in Israel. A spokesman for the state attorney's office, Noam Sharvit, would only say that Israeli law enforcement is "doing all they can to fight and contain these criminal phenomena."

Law enforcement has not globalized as fast as crime, and the legal firewall that surrounds China has added to its appeal as a money-laundering hub.

Chinese authorities generally have done little to help Western companies defrauded in Chikli-style scams recover their money, according to European intelligence documents reviewed by the AP.

The U.S. State Department, in a report this month, reproached China for lackluster performance on money-laundering investigations.

"China has not cooperated sufficiently on financial investigations and does not provide adequate responses to requests for financial investigation information," the State Department wrote.

Jay Bienkowski, an FBI supervisory special agent in Washington who has retired since speaking to the AP, said extradition is crucial for apprehending criminals across borders. But China and the U.S. do not have an extradition treaty.

Europol, the European Union law enforcement agency, has no cooperation agreement with China.

"For us it's a blind spot," said Igor Angelini, Europol's head of financial intelligence.

Gilbert Chikli, 50, poses for a photo at his home in Ashdod, Israel, Monday, March 28, 2016. AP

'MAYBE IT WAS GOD'

Chikli insists he no longer runs fake CEO scams. But a new generation of fraudsters is copying his technique. Using information gleaned from social media and hacking, they impersonate top executives and convince employees to route money to accounts they control, ostensibly to do business deals or pay suppliers.

The FBI said it received 13,500 complaints from fake CEO scam victims around the world—a rise of 270 percent last year.

"It's a significant scam. Big dollars, and relatively recent," said Bienkowski. "It's scary."

The frauds hinge on delicate detail: A faked email ending in .co instead of .com. A name off by a single letter. The pressure is always relentless. A critical deal must be executed immediately, in total secrecy. A new supplier urgently needs payment.

The FBI traced fake CEO scam transfers to more than 70 different countries. "At the very top of that list is Hong Kong and China," Bienkowski said.

Some of the networks now running fake CEO scams are collaborating with Chinese migrants in Europe to launder their money, according to European intelligence documents reviewed by the AP.

"Non-Chinese criminal groups committing CEO frauds are sending money to China because Chinese criminal groups in Europe are giving them cash," Angelini told the AP. "The scale of this phenomenon is quite substantial."

Police believe Chinese migrants and Israeli con men first learned to work together in Chikli's old neighborhood, Sentier, forging a system for laundering money so elegant that today some migrants consider it "the fastest and most secure and most reliable method for Chinese merchants to transfer their funds to China," according to European intelligence documents.

The methods they've devised are a variation of the ancient Chinese system of fei qian (FAY ch'ien), or "flying money."

Chinese immigrants first give their cash to a trusted member of the local Chinese community in France, Italy, Spain, Belgium or Germany and indicate where their money should be remitted. That Chinese intermediary—the bagman—provides the Israeli contacts with the relevant bank account information. The Israelis then direct their stolen money to those accounts in China. Once the Chinese confirm the money has landed in the correct account, the bagman hands over their cash, in euros, to the Israelis.

The Israelis get euros in Europe, the Chinese get yuan in China. "It works like an offsetting operation between (the) Chinese community and crooks in Israel," according to the intelligence documents, which note that the Israelis usually charge a 2.5 percent fee.

France's financial crimes squad in June busted a similar money transfer network in a Chinese wholesale district in Aubervilliers, in the suburbs of Paris, where Chinese merchants are accused of laundering money for North African drug dealers.

While Chikli's copycats may have tapped into flying money networks, Chikli said he never used them himself. He claimed that many of the people running scams today are French Jews who have fled anti-Semitism in France and use the con to rebuild their lives in Israel.

"If it can help these families who have lost everything in France," he said, "then all the better. "Maybe it was God that gave me this idea."

'THANK YOU FOR CALLING'

At 50, Chikli's even, chiseled face is beginning to show signs of age. He insists his intention was never to harm people, but to take revenge on a financial system that lets the rich steal with impunity. He saw who wielded real power in the world: Corporations and the people that run them. And if the son of a poor Tunisian car mechanic could not be a CEO, he could at least pretend to be one.

"I understood that the bankers were never convicted," he said. "If the bankers were never convicted, then I needed to indirectly become an official banker."

As a scrappy 8-year-old, Chikli stole notebooks from school and resold them to his classmates. He later got into credit card fraud. "We would go shopping," he said. "It was pretty nice because we felt like we were the owners of something, which we were not."

He studied acting. Worked in advertising and real estate. But his true vocation was persuasion.

"The brain is the world's most dangerous weapon," Chikli said. "I learned not to control but to try to make someone believe that I was right. And from that moment, all the doors opened."

Chikli calls this "the gift." With it, extracting millions from some of the world's best educated and most privileged can be a matter of a single phone call. "It can last two hours. It can last four hours. It can last five minutes," he said. "It's cinema."

Chikli maintains that his real accomplices were the employees who took his calls and complied with his demands. He threatened them. He bullied them. He seduced them.

He said he made amends to about 30 people who executed his orders—some of whom lost their jobs—by sending credit cards linked to offshore bank accounts with about 50,000 euros ($55,800) each.

"Everyone took—everyone. There was not one who refused," he claimed. He said he gave one bank manager 18 roses. "She was pulverized," he said. "If I remember correctly, we sent her 180,000 euros. That's how we wanted to apologize."

Chikli would provide no evidence to support his claims.

Today, Chikli has himself amassed many trappings of a banker's life: White baby grand piano. Glass elevator. Fendi bedboard. A glam wife 19 years his junior tattooed with "Gilbert" in curling letters next to a heart on her slim wrist.

"I have six children," he said. "I take my kids to school. I am home at 8 p.m. every night. Sincerely, I am the most simple man in the world."

This fugitive from French justice is the hero of a new film starring Julie Gayet, the companion of French President Francois Hollande. Producer Isaac Sharry met Chikli while he was awaiting trial in a French jail and paid him for the rights to his story.

The heist-thriller based on Chikli's life, "Je Compte sur Vous," is also being marketed in English.

The title: "Thank You for Calling."

Good Housekeeping

DIGGIN' IN:

Native plant border provides refuge, privacy

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS

Lisa Ziegler eats, sleeps and breathes fresh farm air in the midst of city life in Newport News, Va.

Some of that precious farm life is disappearing because the adjacent farm will soon become a bustling housing development.

The property, one of many dairy farms in the early Mennonite community, has been home to grazing horses for years. It's also been home to native plants and wildlife, according to Ziegler, whose cutflower fields border the 40-acre tract. Eastern red cedars, blackberry brambles, sassafras trees, oaks and maples are just a few of the native species that provide nesting places and food sources for all kinds of creatures that seek its refuge.

"I suppose my deep connection with this farm and all its inhabitants is rooted in the fact that, like the creatures, I'm out there all day most days and we've come to know each other pretty well," says Ziegler.

"Foxes, raccoons, deer, geese, ducks, snakes, turtles, many amphibians and countless birds, including a pack of Eastern bluebirds and a very busy raptor nest, call this home.

"Over the years we have watched in wonder as one of the tall trees surrounding the pond has housed raptor nests for at least the past six years. The first two years it was home to red-tailed hawks. Great horned owls took over for two consecutive years, and then back to red-tailed hawks, which are currently working on the nest."

Welcome wildlife

To ease the pain of the 90-home development, Ziegler installed a 550-foot native plant border around her 2 1/2-acre farm last fall.

"While I have loved the view over the neighboring 40 acres of pasture and woodlands and just hate to lose it, it's the destruction of habitat and displacement of the wildlife that has proven to be the most difficult to try to swallow," she says.

"Our landscape goal was to create an area that will welcome wildlife in the coming years."

After reading Doug Tallemy's book, "Bringing Nature Home," a few years ago, Ziegler wanted to create her own habitat of native species that would invite birds and insects to live within the boundaries of her own land.

"This project moved to the top of the to-do list when the farm next door was sold and slated to development," she says.

Why a native border?

The native plant border serves several purposes. It provides a visual screen from the homes that will flank her property on two sides. It provides habitat for wildlife displaced by the development's construction. And, it creates a permanent planting of species that will help native bees and other beneficial insects thrive among her organic gardens.

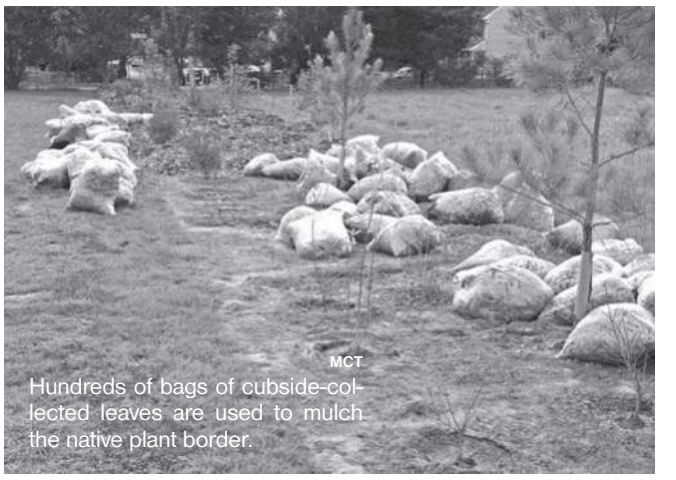
The $9,000 budget for the project supported professional guidance for plant selection and the purchase of large plants for the quickest screening potential Ziegler could get — there is no time to wait for small plants to get big, she says.

MCT

Lisa Ziegler and Farm Dog Babs check on the native border planting.

A rented, engine-powered auger made the planting holes for 159 native trees and shrubs and 36 perennials that include:

- 12 common milkweed, Asclepias syriaca, 1 gallon.
- 12 brown-eyed Susan, Rudbeckia Triloba, 1 gallon.
- 12 mountain mint. Pycnanthemum sp., 1 gallon.
- 6 Eastern red cedar, Juniperus virginiana, 7 gallon.
- 4 loblolly pine, Pinus taeda, 15 gallon.
- 6 sweet bay magnolia, Magnolia virginiana, 7 gallon
- 2 red maple, Acer rubrum, October Glory, 15 gallon.
- 5 black gum, Nyssa sylvatica, 15 gallon.
- 1 willow oak, Quercus phellos, 15 gallon.
- 5 serviceberry, Amelanchier Autumn Brilliance. 7 gallon.
- 3 bald cypress, Taxidium distichum, 15 gallon.



MCT

Hundreds of bags of cubside-collected leaves are used to mulch the native plant border.

- 12 Arrowwood Viburnum dentatum, 7 gallon.
- 10 blackhaw viburnum, Viburnum prunifolium, 7 gallon.
- 18 red chokeberry, Aronia arbutifolia, 7 gallon.
- 12 wax myrtle, Myrica cerifera, 7 gallon.
- 75 pussy willows, Salix, bare root.
- Assorted daffodil bulbs and other gifted plants from friends.

The border is located on what had been a cow and horse pasture for the past 120 years, so no amendments or fertilizers were needed. Marking paint was used to transfer the layout to the land, according to Ziegler. After the plantings, Ziegler and coworkers collected bags of leaves from nearby curbsides to make a 10- to 12-inch deep layer of leaves. No irrigation was installed.

"While our 2 1/2 acres is no replacement for 40 acres of habitat, we are going to do our best to rollout the red carpet for our wildlife friends and make the best of a heartbreaking and environmental changing situation," Ziegler says.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ONE

Jerk Pork and Sweet Potatoes with Slaw

Jerk Pork and Sweet Potatoes:

3 small sweet potatoes (1 1/2 pounds), peeled and cut into 1/2-inch-thick slices

1 teaspoon olive oil

4 teaspoons jerk seasoning

1 whole pork tenderloin (about 1 pound), trimmed

Pineapple-Lime Slaw:

1 to 2 limes

1/2 (16-ounce) bag shredded cabbage mix for coleslaw (about 3 1/2 cups)

1 cup fresh pineapple chunks (6 ounces), cut into matchstick-thin strips

Salt

1. Heat oven to 450 F. Grease 15 1/2-by-10 1/2-inch jelly-roll pan.

2. Prepare Jerk Pork and Sweet Potatoes: In large bowl, toss sweet potatoes with oil and 1/2 teaspoon jerk seasoning until evenly coated. Arrange potatoes around edges of prepared pan in single layer, leaving space in center to add pork later. Roast potatoes 5 minutes.

3. On waxed paper, rub pork with remaining 3 1/2 teaspoons jerk seasoning to coat. Place pork in center of pan. Roast pork and potatoes 15 to 18 minutes or until meat thermometer inserted in center of pork reaches 155 F. Internal temperature will rise to 160 F upon standing.

4. Meanwhile, prepare Pineapple-Lime Slaw: From limes, grate 1 1/2 teaspoons peel and squeeze 2 tablespoons juice. In bowl, combine lime peel and juice, cabbage mix, pineapple and 1/2 teaspoon salt; toss to combine. Makes about 3 1/2 cups.

5. When pork is done, transfer to cutting board. Slice pork and serve with potatoes and slaw. Makes 6 main-dish servings.

* Each serving pork with potatoes: About 175 calories, 4g total fat (1g saturated), 17g protein, 18g carbohydrate, 2g fiber, 45mg cholesterol, 225mg sodium.

* Each serving slaw: About 25 calories, 0g total fat, 1g protein, 6g carbohydrate, 1g fiber, 0mg cholesterol, 205mg sodium.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

In Celebration of Her new Life

† Maria Masga Hocog Ramangmou

Lovingly known as "Marian Yap"

August 28, 1946 - March 19, 2016

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her
Husband: Thomas Telegueba Ramangmou "Tommy Yap"
Children and Families:
Gabriel H. Hocog
Salma and Abdul Samad
†Francis H. Ramangmou
Maureen R. and Pablo Vega Gonzales
†Frank H. Ramangmou
Fernando H. Ramangmou and Patricia Norita
Thomas Jr. and Vivian C. Ramangmou
Marie H. Ramangmou

Reared Children:
Larad R. and Jesus Agulto
Flocha and Lonisia Ramangmou
Frances Blanco
Oharu Blanco
Rufina Rogers

Brothers, Sister and In-Law:
†Jose M. and †Francesca C. Hocog
†Francisco M. and Rosa T. Hocog
†Gregorio M. Hocog
†Antonio M. and Consolacion Hocog
†Jesus M. and Maria F. Hocog
Rufina H. and Wayne Darbro
Luis and Lawis Yull

She is greatly missed by numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions are being celebrated every morning at Our Lady Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 6:00am and nightly rosary is being recited at their residence in Susupe at 7:30 (Talaya Ave.) Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, April 05, 2016. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30 am to their residence in Susupe. Mass of Christian Burial will celebrated at Our Lady Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 2:00pm. Burial will take place at their residence in Susupe where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,

Thomas Ramangmou "Yap", Children and Families

Life & Style

'Batman v Superman' gross revised down to $166.1 million

AP

This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Ben Affleck, left, and Henry Cavill in a scene from, "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice."

Final box-office figures took a little wind out of the sails of "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice."

Warner Bros. on Monday revised down the film's weekend gross by $4 million, lowering it from the Sunday estimate of $170.1 million to $166.1 million. Such corrections are common, though the difference for "Batman v Superman" was slightly more than normal and had an effect on the film's place in the record books.

The movie's Easter weekend debut now drops a notch on the biggest North America openings ever list to seventh, sliding in behind "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2." That film's $169.2 million opening also retakes its place as Warner Bros.' top debut.

It's nevertheless a massive launch for "Batman v Superman," which set a record for biggest pre-summer debut despite withering reviews. It made an additional $254 million internationally.

Debuting 14 years after the hit original, Universal's "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2" performed above expectations over the weekend, opening with $17.9 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1. **"Batman V Superman: Dawn Of Justice,"** Warner Bros., $166,007,347, 4,242 locations, $39,134 average, $166,007,347, 1 week.
2. **"Zootopia,"** Disney, $24,022,288, 3,670 locations, $6,546 average, $241,431,697, 4 weeks.
3. **"My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2,"** Universal, $17,861,950, 3,133 locations, $5,701 average, $17,861,950, 1 week.
4. **"Miracles From Heaven,"** Sony, $9,694,581, 3,047 locations, $3,182 average, $34,304,594, 2 weeks.
5. **"The Divergent Series: Allegiant,"** Lionsgate, $9,435,173, 3,740 locations, $2,523 average, $46,540,669, 2 weeks.
6. **"10 Cloverfield Lane,"** Paramount, $5,940,154, 2,802 locations, $2,120 average, $55,950,951, 3 weeks.
7. **"Deadpool,"** 20th Century Fox, $4,897,941, 2,336 locations, $2,097 average, $349,371,907, 7 weeks.
8. **"London Has Fallen,"** Focus Features, $3,027,568, 2,173 locations, $1,393 average, $55,716,425, 4 weeks.
9. **"Hello, My Name Is Doris,"** Roadside Attractions, $1,668,806, 488 locations, $3,420 average, $3,236,570, 3 weeks.
10. **"Risen,"** Sony, $935,025, 634 locations, $1,475 average, $36,029,172, 6 weeks.
11. **"Eye In The Sky,"** Bleecker Street, $932,450, 123 locations, $7,581 average, $1,654,557, 3 weeks.
12. **"Whiskey Tango Foxtrot,"** Paramount, $900,104, 847 locations, $1,063 average, $21,326,169, 4 weeks.
13. **"Star Wars: The Force Awakens,"** Disney, $816,484, 552 locations, $1,479 average, $933,674,012, 15 weeks.
14. **"The Perfect Match,"** Lionsgate, $682,647, 658 locations, $1,037 average, $8,724,275, 3 weeks.
15. **"Kapoor & Sons,"** Fox International Productions, $598,084, 153 locations, $3,909 average, $1,933,634, 2 weeks.
16. **"Kung Fu Panda 3,"** 20th Century Fox, $561,768, 480 locations, $1,170 average, $139,416,825, 9 weeks.
17. **"The Revenant,"** 20th Century Fox, $446,912, 506 locations, $883 average, $182,068,746, 14 weeks.
18. **"The Young Messiah,"** Focus Features, $274,236, 874 locations, $314 average, $6,257,221, 3 weeks.
19. **"Gods Of Egypt,"** Lionsgate, $273,030, 473 locations, $577 average, $30,219,399, 5 weeks.
20. **"How To Be Single,"** Warner Bros., $250,442, 188 locations, $1,332 average, $46,386,135, 7 weeks.

(AP)

Country group Old Dominion head into ACMs already winners

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)— When members of Old Dominion saw the band's name on the voting ballots for the 51st Academy of Country Music Awards for both new vocal duo/group of the year and vocal group of the year, it felt like a joke.

Lead singer Matthew Ramsey said it hit home when a friend told him it was like "being nominated for rookie of the year and MVP of the year at the same time."

Old Dominion will go into Sunday's awards show already winners. The band has picked up the newcomer award, announced last week.

It's a validation for Old Dominion, whose other members include Trevor Rosen, Whit Sellers, Geoff Sprung and Brad Tursi, after writing country songs for solo acts for years.

But Ramsey said it still feels unreal. "Sometimes I feel like apologizing when we're on these lists," he said. "We're just goofing off and we made that list, sorry."

AP

In this Nov. 4, 2015, file photo, members of Old Dominion, from left, Trevor Rosen, Whit Sellers, Matthew Ramsey, Geoff Sprung and Brad Tursi arrive at the 49th annual CMA Awards at in Nashville, Tenn.

As they were promoting their full-length debut album, "Meat and Candy," last year, the group, which picked the name Old Dominion because of their ties to Virginia, kept hearing the same backhanded compliment from fans.

"One of our favorite things we get a lot from people at our shows is, 'You know what, I don't even like country music, but I like you guys,'" said multi-instrumentalist and songwriter Rosen with a laugh. Added Ramsey, "We're not exactly out there with fiddles jumping around."

Old Dominion is one of the few country groups that doesn't rely heavily on vocal harmonies and writes its own songs, which tend to be upbeat, cleverly worded and tinged with pop rock melodies. The band's songwriters helped write hit songs for Kenny Chesney, Dierks Bentley, Blake Shelton, Chris Young, The Band Perry and Tyler Farr.

It's not easy being a country band these days when solo artists rule the radio waves. But Old Dominion was persistent, pitching songs to other artists, handing out free CDs to any fan that asked and hitting the road nearly 200 days a year.

"We were told, 'No, there's not a spot for you,' quite a few times," Ramsey said.

The band got its first hit single, "Break Up With Him," which they wrote together, thanks to heavy airplay on Sirius XM Radio, similar to how Florida Georgia Line got its break. Songwriter and producer Shane McAnally, best known for his work with Sam Hunt and Kacey Musgraves, helped produce the record. They got an opening spot on Kenny Chesney's Big Revival tour, which moved them from playing in clubs to performing in stadiums.

"It got us in front of thousands of people a night and raised the profile of the band," said Tursi, a guitarist and songwriter.

What they learned from their experience on the road was to keep their shows and songs light, fun and energetic, which reflects their attitude off the road, too, where they are constantly laughing and making fun of each other.

"A band in our position, we have a first impression to make," Ramsey said. "We don't want to come out of the gate and make people sad. I think we consciously made that choice to keep it happy and up."

To which Tursi joked, "Here's our new single: 'Never Going to Get Better.'"

The ACM Awards will be presented Sunday at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, hosted by Luke Bryan and Dierks Bentley. The show will air live on CBS (8 p.m. Eastern).

'Most Interesting Man in the World' helps Make-a-Wish

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP)—The former "Most Interesting Man in the World" who appeared in Dos Equis beer commercials for nine years is lending his gravelly voice and bearded face to a Vermont cause: Make-a-Wish Foundation Vermont.

Jonathan Goldsmith will star in public service announcements for the organization, which grants wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions.

The Mexican beer brand recently dropped the 77-year-old, New York-born actor and says a younger "Most Interesting Man in the World" will appear in commercials later this year.

Goldsmith, who lives in Manchester, Vermont, has worked on a number of charitable causes throughout his career and has been involved with at-risk kids since he was 18, he said Monday.

AP

Jonathan Goldsmith, left, works on a public service announcement with Jamie Heath of Barre, Vt., Monday, March 28, 2016, at the Make-A-Wish Vermont office in Burlington, Vt. Goldsmith, who appeared for nine years as the "Most Interesting Man in the World," in Dos Equis beer commercials, will star in public service announcements for Make-a-Wish Foundation Vermont.

"In fact, I really wanted to be a social worker. I wanted that to be my life's work, but a circuitous route took me to Broadway," he told The Associated Press.

On Monday, he and Wish Kid Jamie Heath of Barre, Vermont, recorded public service announcements for television and the Internet focused on spreading the word that Make-A-Wish helps not just children with terminal conditions but also those with life-threatening conditions where a wish can help in the healing process.

Jamie, who has an arteriovenous malformation in her brain that has caused hemorrhaging and strokes, knows firsthand how the wishes help to heal after swimming with sea turtles in Hawaii last April through Make-A-Wish Vermont.

"It was awesome. I will never forget the joy that that brought me," said the 15-year-old.

"It let me run away for a week. And when I got back, I felt I no longer had to run away. You know I was ready to accept my condition and my disabilities," said Jamie, who also speaks at Make-A-Wish fundraising events.

Janice Dickinson vows to fight back against breast cancer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Model and TV host Janice Dickinson has revealed that she's got breast cancer and vows to battle the disease.

"Janice is going to fight and she will not let this diagnosis define her. She wants to encourage all women to have regular checkups, as that is how her cancer was discovered," said Dickinson's attorney, Lisa Bloom, in a statement Monday.

Dickinson told DailyMail.com that a "pea-size" lump was found on her right breast during a doctor visit on March 8. Three days after the lump was discovered, Janice had a mammogram and a biopsy. She will undergo surgery and radiation therapy.

"Don't feel sorry for me, this is not a pity party, I'm Janice Dickinson and I'm gonna stick around for a long, long time, you ain't getting rid of me yet," she told the website.

"It's still quite shocking. You know, I've had plastic surgery and I've had breast implants and I've always been very vocal of what I've done, because I tell the truth about everything. As I am right now," the 61-year-old said.

AP

In this June 29, 2015 file photo, Janice Dickinson arrives at the Los Angeles premiere of "Lord of the Freaks."

Barbara Cook's return to a New York stage postponed

AP

In this Dec. 7, 2013 file photo, Barbara Cook arrives at the State Department for the Kennedy Center Honors gala dinner in Washington.

NEW YORK (AP)—Barbara Cook's return to a New York stage in a show about her life has been postponed.

Producers said Monday that "Barbara Cook: Then and Now," conceived by James Lapine and directed by Tommy Tune, will not be staged this spring at the New World Stages complex.

In a statement, producer Roy Furman noted that Cook has been hard at work on her memoir. "Going directly into rehearsal to create this new production was causing undue pressure and stress," he said.

There was no word when Cook's show—billed as a "vibrant and candid journey through her remarkable life"—would be staged next.

Marilynne Robinson wins Library of Congress fiction prize

NEW YORK (AP)—'Marilynne Robinson, the acclaimed author of novels such as "Gilead" and "Housekeeping," is this year's winner of the Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction, a lifetime achievement honor.

In a statement released Tuesday, acting Librarian of Congress David S. Mao cited the "depth and resonance" of Robinson's novels. The 72-year-old Robinson won the Pulitzer Prize in 2005 for "Gilead," the first of a trilogy of Iowa-based novels that also includes "Home" and Lila." Previous winners of the Library of Congress prize include Louise Erdrich and Don DeLillo.

Son's sperm donation provoles mother's ire

DEAR ABBY: My oldest son came to me nine months ago asking my opinion. He wanted to donate sperm to a black lesbian couple (for a fee) so they could have a biracial child. He told me he needed the money. I told him I didn't approve because they are lesbians. (Sorry, I'll be bashed for that statement, but I have to be honest.)

I have a biracial 10-year-old son, so race isn't the issue. Had it been a heterosexual couple of any race, I would have been OK. However, what I told him was that if he gives up his rights to the child, I, too, won't have grandparents' rights. I broke down in tears when he told me all this.

Yesterday I received a picture of a newborn. It turns out my son donated his sperm knowing how I feel about homosexuality. I have tried hard to always be there for my children, letting them know I love them and doing the best a single mother could do for them. I feel I must have failed horribly in bringing him up to be a better man.

I cannot, in our home state, fight for grandparents' rights since he has relinquished his rights. I am even more hurt that he would share a picture of my grandson knowing my opinion, and I feel horribly disrespected. Am I being overly sensitive? Should I just let all of this go?

DISRESPECTED IN THE SOUTH

DEAR DISRESPECTED: What's done is done. Your son's sperm is his to do with as he wishes. His mistake was in asking your opinion and letting you see the picture. Because of your deep-seated bias against gay couples, I assume you weren't planning on having contact with the baby anyway, because overcoming your intolerance would have been necessary.

Your son is an adult, and your blessing was not required. If you continue to hang onto this, it may destroy your relationship with your son, so let it go.

DEAR ABBY: My husband had an affair and a child with a married woman before we were together. They agreed to let her husband raise the boy as if he were his biological son. I didn't agree with it.

We have a daughter together who is two years younger than the boy. They will be going to the same middle school next year. Our daughter is very sociable and likes meeting new people. I'm afraid that they will meet and be attracted to each other, not knowing they have the same father. Do I say something now, or wait and hope my worst fear does not become reality?

KEEPING A BIG SECRET

DEAR KEEPING: Say something now. While there is no guarantee they will be attracted to each other, they should be told they have a half-sibling.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

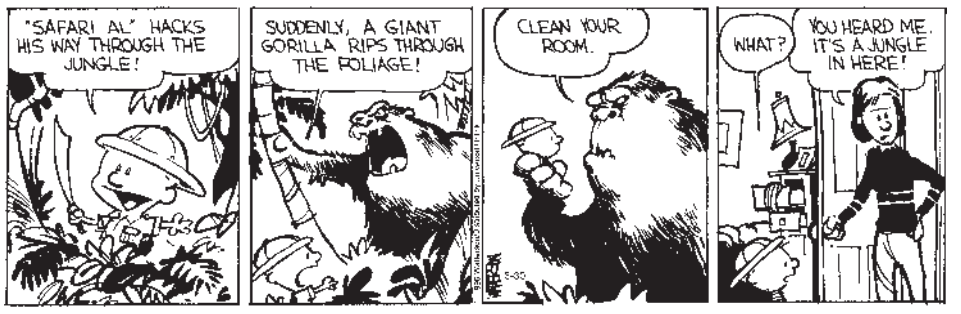
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

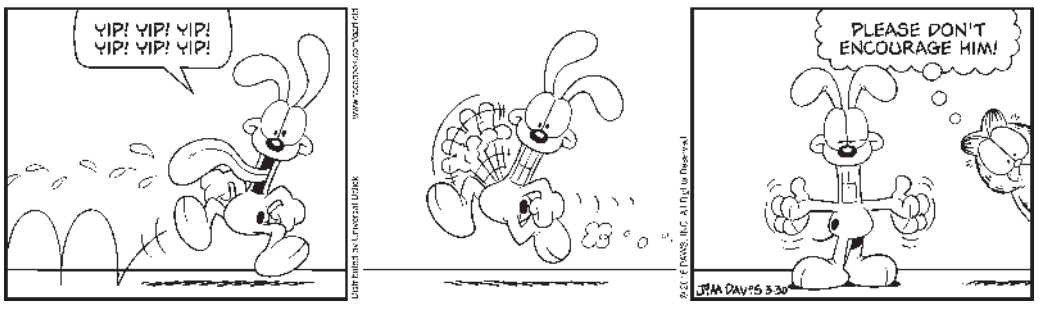
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


"SAFARI AL" HACKS HIS WAY THROUGH THE JUNGLE!
SUDDENLY, A GIANT GORILLA RIPS THROUGH THE FOLIAGE!
CLEAN YOUR ROOM.
WHAT?
YOU HEARD ME. IT'S A JUNGLE IN HERE!

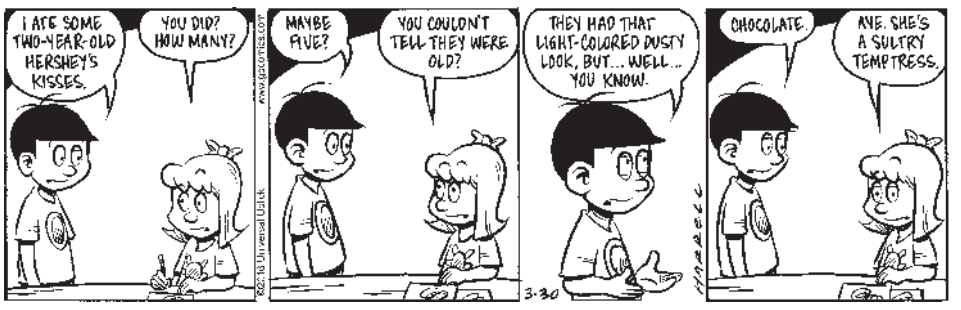
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



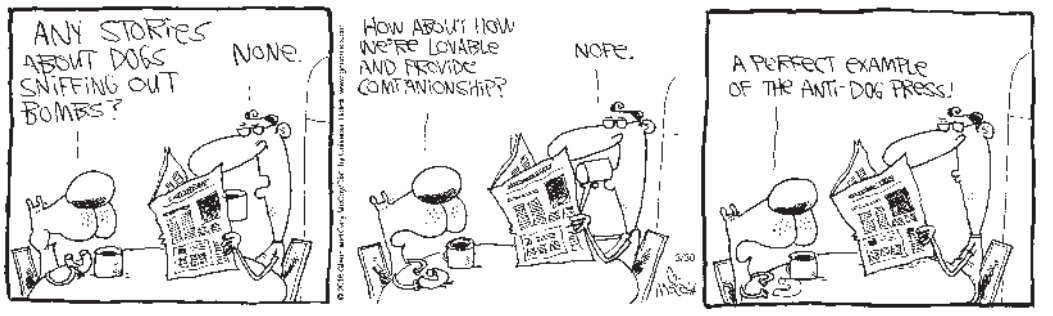
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I ATE SOME TWO-YEAR-OLD HERSHEY'S KISSES.
YOU DID? HOW MANY?
MAYBE FIVE?
YOU COULDN'T TELL THEY WERE OLD?
THEY HAD THAT LIGHT-COLORED DUSTY LOOK, BUT... WELL... YOU KNOW.
CHOCOLATE.
AYE. SHE'S A SULTRY TEMPTRESS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


ANY STORIES ABOUT DOGS SNIFFING OUT BOMBS?
NONE.
HOW ABOUT HOW WE'RE LOVABLE AND PROVIDE COMPANIONSHIP?
NOPE.
A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF THE ANTI-DOG PRESS!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Guest's bed
4 Pvt.'s superior
7 Tobacco plug
8 Emerald, for one
10 Trumpet noise
11 Perfect place
13 Really relaxed
16 QB's goals
17 Carries
18 "For shame!"
19 Hankerings
20 Suit to —
21 "All in the Family" spin-off
23 Christie and Karenina
25 Mattress option
26 Very dry, as champagne
27 Performance
28 Like organza
30 Sheepish remark
33 Sloshed
36 East
37 Supreme Court Justice Kagan
38 Pundits' pieces
39 Gambling mecca
40 Pigs' digs
41 Verily

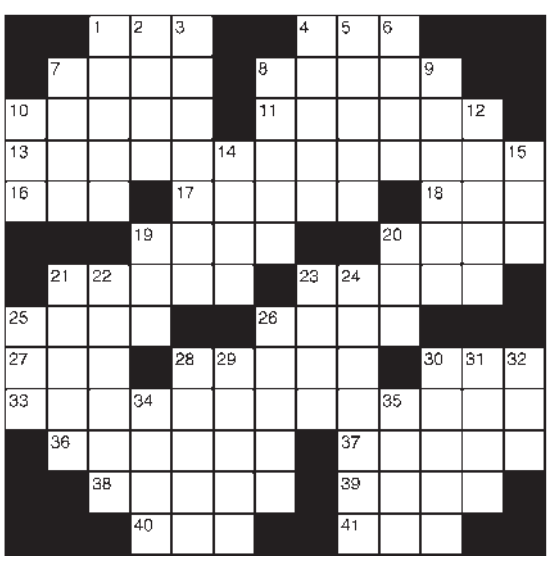
DOWN

1 Utter disorder
2 Rowboat needs
3 Chirped
4 Biological bristles
5 Pirates' potables
6 Glitch in print
7 Lummox
8 Some statues
9 Ray of "Goodfellas"
10 Diner order
12 Ninnies
14 Highly rated
15 Supplement, with "out"
19 "Delicious!"
20 Busy insect
21 Itty-bitty
22 Maestro Toscanini
23 Length x width
24 Baby's room
25 Passing craze
26 Defeats
28 Type of trapshooting
29 Within reach
30 "— Vista Social Club"
31 Part of A.D.
32 Wanted-poster abbr.
34 Pinches
35 Swiss artist Paul

Solution time: 24 mins.

M	O	C	R		I	D	A		V	A	S	T
E	A	V	E		N	O	D		E	N	T	O
S	H	U	L		G	O	V	E	R	N	O	R
H	U	M	I	D	O	R		S	O	A	P	Y
			E	A	I		I	A	N			
D	E	I	F	Y		S	Q	U	A	D	O	R
U	S	C			H		S			O	R	O
E	Q	U	A	T	O	R		B	U	G	G	Y
			L	I	P		V	I	P			
H	A	S	T	E		W	I	N	D	S	O	R
A	N	N	A	R	B	O	R		I	C	T	A
S	T	I	H		I	N	G		K	A	T	Y
P	E	I	S		I	K	O		E	H	O	S

Yesterday's answer 3-30



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Katy Mixon, 35; Celine Dion, 48; Eric Clapton, 71; Warren Beatty, 79.

Happy Birthday: Precision and dedication will be necessary if you are to reach your personal and professional goals. Waiting to see what others do will cost you. Believe in your abilities and strive to do your own thing. Protect your heart and your health, and refuse to be pressured to follow someone who is tempting you to indulge in bad habits. Your numbers are 6, 10, 17, 24, 30, 37, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Compliments will come your way, but keep in mind that someone may be trying to coax you into revealing personal information that is best kept private. Trust in your own judgment and knowledge to help you succeed. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Raise issues that concern you. Use facts to prove your point. Apply for a position, update your resume or engage in conversations that allow you to show what you have to offer. Love is on the rise, but secret affairs are best avoided. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take care of your health and financial concerns. Don't try to buy your way into something. A relationship will be on shaky ground if financial comments are involved. Save, and avoid debt. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): The more creative and unique you are, the more interest you will drum up. Present your ideas with passion and don't let anyone downplay your ability to bring plans to fruition. Make your personal relationships a priority. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Your desire for change will come at a price. Find a responsible way to get what you want. Discipline and hard work will be more rewarding than you anticipated. Believe in what you do and others will believe in you, too. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You'll have the edge if you stand your ground. Bring about the changes at home or to your financial situation that will ease stress and encourage an important relationship to blossom. Don't fold under pressure. Fair is fair. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Be observant when dealing with friends, family or your partner. Failing to recognize when someone is having a problem can turn into an emotional situation that tries your patience. Listen and offer solutions, understanding and the willingness to accept change. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Attend a reunion or get together with someone you enjoyed working with in the past, and good things will transpire. A celebration with someone you love will bring you closer together and could lead to long-term plans. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Be honest, but don't share information that could be used against you. Stick close to home and make improvements that will boost your confidence or add to your assets. Avoid situations that could result in poor health or injury. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Keep your money and possessions in a safe place. Look for alternative ways to earn extra cash. Don't let what others do tempt you to make an impulsive choice. Focus on stability and long-term security, not a fast fix. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Rely on the people you have been able to count on in the past. An unusual turn of events will unfold, leaving you an unexpected surplus. Good things will happen if you work on self-improvement projects and living a healthy lifestyle. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Stay on track no matter what other people do. Anger will slow you down and lead nowhere. Don't bicker over senseless matters. Offer love and affection over anger and disputes, and you will improve an important relationship. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, caring and obsessive. You are daring and entertaining.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

						6	8	
					8	2	3	1
				3	9	7		4
			7	2		4	9	8
		7	1					
4	2	6						
6		2	3					
1			8					
3	7	4	5					

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	1	3	2	4	9	7	6	8
4	6	2	7	8	1	9	3	5
7	9	8	6	3	5	4	2	1
8	5	4	9	6	7	3	1	2
3	2	9	1	5	4	8	7	6
1	7	6	3	2	8	5	4	9
9	4	7	8	1	2	6	5	3
6	8	1	5	7	3	2	9	4
2	3	5	4	9	6	1	8	7

Difficulty Level ★★ 3/29

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

GYM ROUTINES Solution: 3 letters

C	L	Y	S	T	N	E	M	E	L	P	P	U	S	S
R	A	L	H	E	C	N	A	R	U	D	N	E	T	T
O	E	R	E	T	L	Y	G	R	E	N	E	O	R	R
U	T	S	D	B	L	C	J	U	M	P	M	A	O	A
C	T	R	I	I	R	A	S	K	R	A	Ⓔ	T	U	I
H	N	B	E	S	O	A	E	U	C	H	Ⓚ	N	T	N
E	E	I	U	A	T	V	B	H	M	A	Ⓘ	I	I	I
S	M	C	S	I	D	A	A	O	E	A	Ⓑ	R	N	N
K	P	E	C	E	L	M	N	S	X	A	S	P	E	G
I	I	P	S	A	S	D	I	C	C	I	V	S	P	N
P	U	S	N	T	B	I	I	L	E	U	N	Y	O	I
P	Q	C	R	E	E	L	A	N	L	G	L	G	W	C
I	E	I	N	R	I	S	E	R	G	A	N	A	E	N
N	N	C	O	F	I	T	N	E	S	S	B	U	R	A
G	H	C	T	R	A	P	E	Z	I	U	S	S	L	D

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 3/30

Back, Balance, Barbell, Bench, Biceps, Bike, Boxing, Building, Burpees, Cable, Cardiovascular, Core, Crouches, Dancing, Endurance, Energy, Equipment, Fitness, Hamstring, Healthy, Heart, Heavy, Jump, Lift, Lunge, Mass, Muscles, Power, Raises, Resistance, Routine, Sets, Skipping, Sprint, Stomach, Supplements, Training, Trapezius, Treadmill

Yesterday's Answer: Highway

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

K FISHMART

(1) Fisherman

If interested, contact 989-2446 to apply.
With valid driver's license required.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AM Machine Shop & Car Airconditioning

(1) Machinist
Knowledgeable in modifying and fabrication of parts
Must have 3 years experience

Contact Name: Adonis I. Santos
Contact No. 323-0102

Backhoe for Rent
For inquiries, please call
285-0478
- Security Services
- General Help Supply Services
- Heavy Equipment Rental
- Auto & Heavy Equipment Repair Shop

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 General Maintenance Worker
Duties: Performs various building maintenance work, such as carpentry, plumbing, mason, electrical repair and maintenance of appliances. Performs yard work and other essential duties as required.
Qualifications: High School Graduate or equivalent with 3 years related experience. Salary $6.05/hour

Send resume to: P.O. Box 502668, Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ELECTRICIAN (1) Min of 5yrs exp in electrical system installations. Plans, layout and installs electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures. Tests electrical system or continuity of circuits using testing devices. Knows all types of electrical products and able to explain its technical aspects. Answers customers' questions on electrical products' functions and safety concerns. Receives inventories, arrange stocks & do other duties. Salary commensurate with qualifications & experience.

ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER (1) Min of 5yrs exp in administrative and finance office. Does journal entry using Peachtree software. Prepares tax reports, permits, licenses, employees' immigration and corporate docs. Does bank reconciliation, wire transfer requests, & bank online transactions. Prepares correspondences with vendors and customers. Represents the company in any private and government agencies. Bachelor degree. Salary commensurate with qualifications & experience.

Send resume to
hongeei@pticom.com
HONG ELECTRIC ENTERPRISES, INC.

Mariana Resort & Spa

Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd.
dba Mariana Resort & Spa, Mariana Country Club, Mariana Seaside Circuit

Available Jobs
Eligible U.S. workers apply at the Human Resources Office, Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. (Marpi)

(3) Waitstaff
Work Location: Garapan

Submit resume or fill up an application attached with police clearance at Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. H.R. office in Marpi. Drug test require.
Contact person: Emelina Santos Tel # 322-0770 ext. 402/409

WANTED

Cement Supervisor
Salary: $7.73 per hour
Must have cement handling equipment experience

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc., Puerto Rico

Cement Laborer
Cement handling equipment experience preferred.
Will train motivated individuals
Wages based on experience

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc.
Tel: 670 322-3333

www.saipantribune.com

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Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
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Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

SUNSHINE CAFÉ

Two Openings for Pattesier:
Lead a small team in preparing and producing all pastry, bakery and dessert items for the restaurant.

Interested applicants please send your resume and short introduction to sunshinejobs@icloud.com

Let's GO!

LOOKING FOR: UTV Mechanic

Become a part of Saipan's most unique off-road experience team! Let's Go Tour Company has an opening for a Full Time Mechanic in its Saipan base. We passionately serve people who enjoy the outdoor lifestyle by delivering innovation, quality and value in our products and service. At Let's Go Tour Company you will meet new people every day while enjoying the spirit of adventure!

Position Overview:
This position is responsible for servicing, diagnosing, repairing and installing motors, parts, and general components of a "Utility Terrain Vehicle" (UTV).

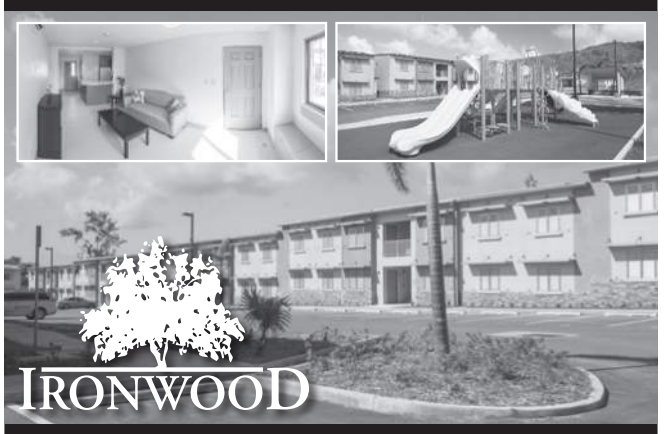
Essential Job Functions:
Assures vehicles are repaired in a timely and accurate manner by performing the necessary diagnostics and trouble shooting, consulting with supervisor and manager when necessary. Moves vehicles around interior or exterior of the buildings. Assists in loading and unloading of passengers when needed. Assists in tour guide/driving functions when needed.

Requirements:
4+ years of experience in auto mechanics

Hiring preference is given to those with solid mechanical knowledge and at least 2 years of experience in the power sports (Motorcycles/ATV's/UTV's/Jetskis/Boats) industry.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr_Int@tanholdings.com. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the 2nd floor of the JP Center Building along Beach Road or at the Century Tours office at Kanoa Resort. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED



NEW 2, 3, and 4 bedroom energy efficient apartments in Saipan. Lower utility costs up to 70% through solar panels and solar hot water.

NOW LEASING
Starting @ $599/mo.

OPEN HOUSE
MONDAY - FRIDAY • 9AM - 4PM
For pictures, amenities, and application information visit our website
www.ironwoodhousing.com
or call 670-233-4348. Applications are being accepted Monday - Friday, 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. and on Saturday, 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m., at Ironwood Community Center on Middle Road, Gualo Rai.

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!
For opportunities contact us at **235-6397**

WHATZIT Solution: Hair-raising

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

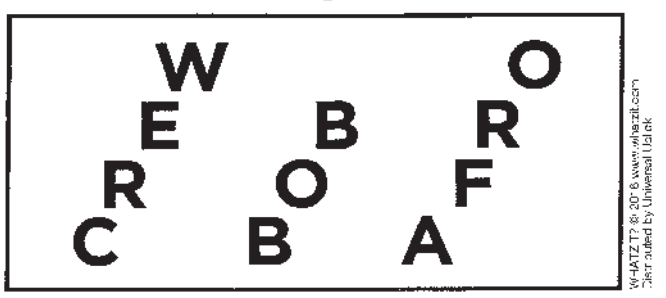
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

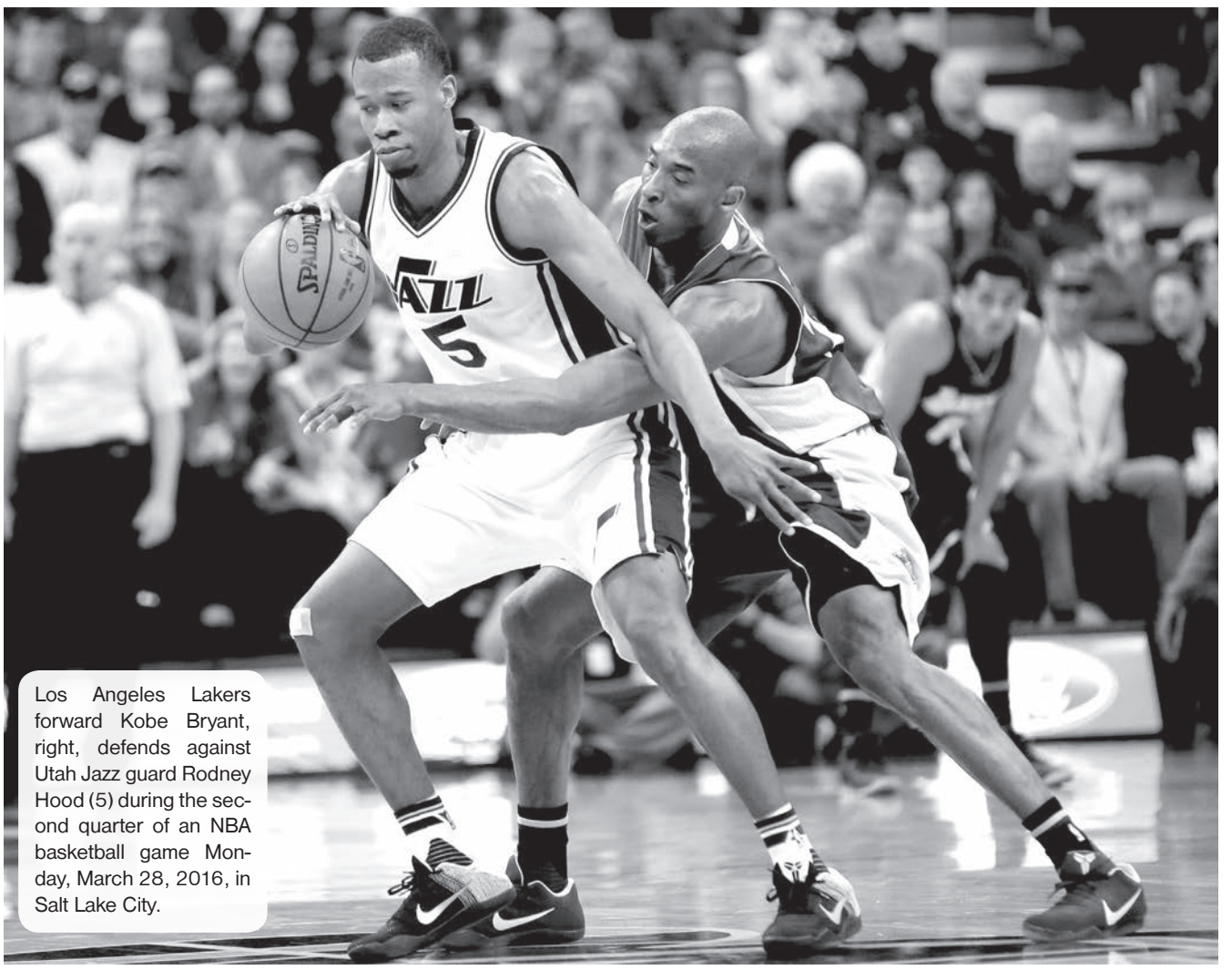
Jazz hand Kobe worst loss ever in last visit to Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Rodney Hood scored 30 points and the Jazz turned Kobe Bryant's last visit to Utah into the worst loss of his career with a 123-75 victory on Monday night that matched the Lakers' largest defeat in franchise history.

The Jazz had their biggest offensive night of the season and remained in the No. 7 slot in the Western Conference playoff race, one game ahead of the Houston Rockets.

The 48-point defeat matched the margin in the Lakers' 142-94 loss to the Clippers on March 7, 2014, when Bryant was out with an injury.

Hood and the Jazz put the game away early with a 17-2 start. The second-year guard was 5 for 5 from the field for 14 first-quarter points. He had 30 at halftime, including eight 3-pointers, and missed his career high for a game by two points.



Los Angeles Lakers forward Kobe Bryant, right, defends against Utah Jazz guard Rodney Hood (5) during the second quarter of an NBA basketball game Monday, March 28, 2016, in Salt Lake City.

Thunder 119, Raptors 100

In Toronto, Russell Westbrook had 26 points, 12 assists and 11 rebounds in his 16th triple-double of the season, Kevin Durant scored 34 points and Oklahoma City beat Toronto for its eighth straight victory.

Westbrook has seven triple-doubles in March, the most in a month since Michael Jordan had seven in April, 1989. He has the most in a season since Magic Johnson had 17 in 1988-89.

Oklahoma City has the NBA's longest current winning streak and the team's longest since a 10-game run from Jan. 16-31, 2014.

DeMar DeRozan had 19 points and Norman Powell added 18 for the Raptors, who lost at home for just the fourth time in 2016.

Hawks 102, Bulls 100

In Chicago, Jeff Teague scored 26 points, including two free throws with just over six seconds to play, and surging Atlanta fought off a furious Chicago rally.

It was the fourth straight win for the Hawks. Though the Bulls mounted a dramatic late comeback, they continued a late-season swoon, losing their fourth straight.

The Bulls were down as much as 15 in the second half, but stormed back in the fourth quarter and were down three with the ball with eight seconds to play. Chicago's Mike Dunleavy missed a layup, though, and fouled Teague, whose free throws sealed Atlanta's ninth win in 10 games.

Spurs 101, Grizzlies 87

In Memphis, LaMarcus Aldridge had 31 points and 13 rebounds to lead San Antonio over Memphis.

Aldridge connected on 11 of 16 shots and was 9 of 11 from the line as San Antonio won despite resting stars Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili, who did not make the trip to Memphis.

Patty Mills finished with 17 points, while Kyle Anderson had 13 points and a career-best seven assists. Boris Diaw also added 13 points.

Vince Carter led Memphis with 14 points, while JaMychal Green finished with 12. Matt Barnes had 11 points and nine rebounds for Memphis, which lost its third straight.

Heat 110, Nets 99

In Miami, Dwyane Wade had 30 points and nine assists, Hassan Whiteside scored a career-high 27 points off the bench and Miami pulled away to beat Brooklyn.

Josh Richardson finished with 16 points in a spot start and Justise Winslow added 13 for Miami, which clamped down defensively in the second half.

Brook Lopez scored 26 points for Brooklyn, which had its streak of seven straight games with 100 or more points—the team's longest in two years—come to an end. Thaddeus Young made his first 10 shots and scored 20 for the Nets, who got 14 from Sean Kilpatrick.

Wade is averaging 27.1 points in his last seven games against the Nets.

Mavericks 97, Nuggets 88

In Denver, reserve J.J. Barea scored 18 points and had 11 assists to help short-handed Dallas halt a three-game skid with a win over Denver.

Dwight Powell had 10 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter as Dallas moved into a virtual tie with Houston for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

It was a much-needed win for the Mavericks in a month that hasn't been friendly to them. They're 4-10 and have gone from five games over .500 on March 1 to two games below.

The Mavericks had seven players score in double figures, including all of their starters.

Timberwolves 121, Suns 116

In Minneapolis, Andrew Wiggins scored 32 points, Karl-Anthony Towns added 27 points and 10 boards and Minnesota beat Phoenix.

Wiggins needed just 13 field goal attempts to score his points. He made 17 of 21 free throws and 3 of 5 3-pointers as the Wolves won for the third time in their last four games. Minnesota shot 50.6 percent and turned 21 Suns turnovers into 26 points.

Devin Booker scored 12 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter as the Suns mounted a furious comeback from 20 down. Brandon Knight scored 30 points and tied a career high with seven 3-pointers, but the Suns lost for the eighth time in their last 11 games.

Pelicans 99, Knicks 91

In New Orleans, Jrue Holiday scored 10 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter and New Orleans snapped a three-game slide with a victory over New York.

Returning from a two-game absence because of a toe injury on his left foot, Holiday took over a tight game in the final minutes, scoring six points during a 9-0 run that gave New Orleans a 93-85 lead.

The Pelicans won for the first time this season when scoring fewer than 100 points. New Orleans had been 0-33 in such games.

Former Knick Toney Douglas scored 16 points and Luke Babbitt added 14 for the Pelicans.

Carmelo Anthony scored 22 for New York, while Robin Lopez added 17 points. Knicks rookie Kristaps Porzingis had 16 points, 10 rebounds and three blocked shots.

Clippers 114, Celtics 90

In Los Angeles, DeAndre Jordan had 15 points and 13 rebounds, Chris Paul added 13 points and 14 assists and Los Angeles cruised past Boston.

The Clippers won their third in a row and moved 5 1/2 games ahead of Memphis, which lost to San Antonio on Monday night, for fourth place in the Western Conference with nine games to play. The Clippers clinched a playoff berth on Sunday.

Austin Rivers scored 16 points to lead the Clippers, who shot 52 percent. Jamal Crawford added 13, Wesley Johnson 11 and Jeff Green 10.

Trail Blazers 105, Kings 93

In Portland, reserve Allen Crabbe scored 21 points and Portland beat short-handed Sacramento.

CJ McCollum had 16 points, while Damian Lillard added 13 points and nine assists, before both sat out the fourth quarter. Portland, which led by as many as 28 points, remained sixth in the Western Conference with seven games to go.

The Blazers have won 14 of their last 16 games at home, including five straight.

Seth Curry had a career-high 21 points in just his third start of the season and Omri Casspi added 18 for the Kings, who have lost five straight to the Blazers.

Boeheim surprised his 10-seed Syracuse crashing Final Four

HOUSTON (AP)—Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim isn't surprised that No. 2 seeds Oklahoma and Villanova knocked off top seeds to join No. 1 seed North Carolina in the Final Four.

He is, however, a bit taken aback that the other team in the field managed to do so.

"I'm probably surprised at the other guys -- that we're there," Boeheim said of his team. "I shouldn't say that, but I am a little surprised."

Boeheim certainly isn't the only one surprised that Syracuse is one of the last four teams remaining in the NCAA Tournament. The Orange, who rallied Sunday night for a 68-62 victory over top-seeded Virginia, become the first No. 10 seed to reach the national semifinals and just the fourth double-digit seed to do it.

Syracuse will meet North Carolina on Saturday night after Oklahoma and Villanova play in the first semifinal. The Orange are in the Final Four for the sixth time overall and first since 2013, when they lost to Michigan.

Villanova coach Jay Wright, whose team spent three weeks at No. 1 in February, said there were so many teams this season worthy of No. 1 seeds in the NCAA Tournament.

"Even when the seedings came out, I think there was more talk about who was the No. 1, who was the No. 2, and where were they seeded among each other, than (in) any year," Wright said. "Usually you talk about who made the tournament, who didn't get in the tournament. All the questions were about the top. I think that is indicative of the season."

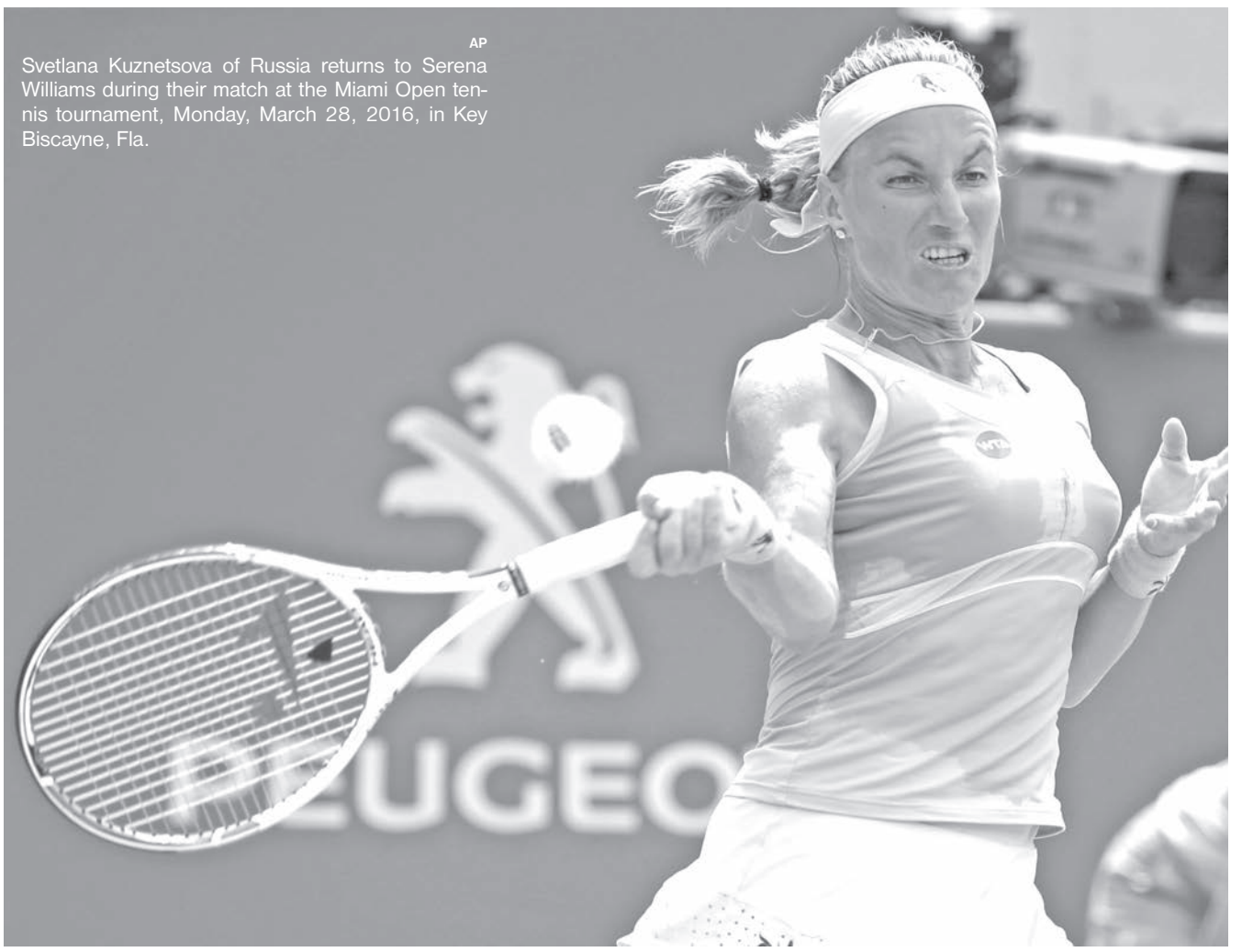
Oklahoma coach Lon Kruger is returning to the Final Four for the first time since taking the Florida Gators there in 1994. This time he brings a team led by Buddy Hield and with a supporting cast that includes Khadeem Lattin -- the grandson of David Lattin, a starter on the Texas Western team that won the title in 1966 -- who grew up in Houston.

Kruger, a 30-year college coaching veteran, said this is the most wide-open season he's seen.

"Because there's so much balance, so many good players," he said. "Probably as difficult of a seeding year as any could be ... there's so many good players, so many good teams. I think that makes it even more special to have a chance for these guys to play in the Final Four in a year where a lot of people could get there and everything was so competitive."

After the furious comeback Syracuse needed to reach the Final Four, some wonder how the Orange will fare on Saturday. Boeheim scoffed at the notion that they might have a letdown similar to the one Texas A&M had in its game against Oklahoma after its comeback win over Northern Iowa in the second round.

Kuznetsova upsets Serena at Miami Open



AP

Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia returns to Serena Williams during their match at the Miami Open tennis tournament, Monday, March 28, 2016, in Key Biscayne, Fla.

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP)—Serena Williams had been out of the tournament for less than 20 minutes when she climbed into her white Mini Cooper with the checkerboard top and pulled away from the players' parking lot, fastening her seat belt as she drove.

A hasty departure, for sure.

Williams' 20-match winning streak at Key Biscayne ended Monday with a 6-7 (3), 6-1, 6-2 loss to Svetlana Kuznetsova in the fourth round of the upset-filled Miami Open.

Williams was bidding for her ninth title in the event and her fourth in a row. But after a grueling first set that lasted nearly an hour, the 21-time Grand Slam champion faded on a sweltering afternoon.

It was her earliest exit at Key Biscayne since 2000, when she lost in the fourth round to Jennifer Capriati.

"I did the best I could," she said during a post-match news conference that lasted less than three minutes before she cut it off. "I can't win every match. These players come out and play me like they've never played before in their lives. I have to be 300 percent every day."

Williams, 34, will retain the No. 1 ranking, but she hasn't won a tournament since earning her 69th title at Cincinnati in August.

"She's still No. 1, and she still plays great," Kuznetsova said. "I don't see much to be depressed about."

A wave of upsets continued on the men's side, too, with No. 2 Andy Murray dropping the final five games against No. 26 Grigor Dimitrov to lose 6-7 (1), 6-4, 6-3.

Murray played in the late afternoon and declined to blame the heat, but he committed 22 unforced errors in the final set and 55 total. He was broken six times, including in his final three service games.

"I made many more mistakes than usual, especially in the third set," said Murray, a two-time Key Biscayne champion. "He was more solid than me."

Murray's elimination leaves the tournament without four of the five top-seeded men. Among them only No. 1 Novak Djokovic reached the round of 16.

The No. 15-seeded Kuznetsova beat Williams with defense, repeatedly extending points until she forced a mistake. The Russian finished with only 18 unforced errors to 55 for Williams.

In addition, Williams' serve was uncharacteristically unreliable. She hit 13 aces but also had nine double faults and was broken six times.

Williams said the 91-degree temperature - a record for the date - didn't faze her.

"Physically I'm fine," she said. "I don't know, I guess I didn't move today. Maybe that was one of the things that didn't work out for me."

Kuznetsova, 30, won Key Biscayne 10 years ago and is into the quarterfinals for the first time since 2009.

"I'm too old," she told the crowd. "I've been many times on this court. I love being back here, and I'm really happy with my performance."

Also sidelined were No. 3 seed Agnieszka Radwanska and No. 4 Garbine Muguruza. Two-time champion Victoria Azarenka, seeded 13th, committed only 12 unforced errors and defeated Muguruza 7-6 (6), 7-6 (4). No. 19 Timea Bacsinszky eliminated Radwanska 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.

No. 2 Angelique Kerber played past midnight to eliminate Timea Babos 6-2, 3-6, 6-4.

In other men's play, No. 12 Milos Raonic held every service game to beat the last American in the men's draw, No. 22 Jack Sock, 7-6 (3), 6-4.

Williams lives 90 minutes from Key Biscayne and has long considered the event her home tournament. But the stadium was two-thirds empty for her match, partly because of weather so uncomfortable some spectators draped towels over their heads seeking refuge from the sweltering sun.

Williams played a flawless tiebreaker, hitting two aces and three other winners. But after she lost serve to fall behind 3-1 in the second set, her play became more flat-footed. At least twice she failed to pursue shots from Kuznetsova.

In the third set, Williams tried hitting balls as hard as she could, and some went for winners. But she double-faulted to fall behind 4-1, and Kuznetsova held twice to close out the victory.

There was no smiling by either player as they met at the net to shake hands. Kuznetsova improved to 3-8 against Williams and beat her for the first time since the 2009 French Open quarterfinals.

"It's obviously disappointing," Williams said, "but I've won here a lot, so it's OK."

Harvey could miss Mets opener due to unspecified medical issue

JUPITER, Fla. (AP)—New York Mets pitcher Matt Harvey has been scratched from his final spring training appearance and could miss his opening day start at Kansas City on Sunday because of an unspecified related medical issue.

"It's a non-baseball medical issue we have to address," Mets general manager Sandy Alderson said Monday. "It came up this morning, as far as I know, and there will be some follow up tests and consultations that will take place over the next couple of days."

Harvey did not travel with the rest of the team to Jupiter, Florida, for Monday's spring training game against the St. Louis Cardinals, and the Mets said he had an appointment with a doctor who was not an orthopedist.

"I think it's a little too early to attach any level of concern," Alderson said.

Alderson said he was informed by the team's medical staff Monday that Harvey had a "symptom."

"It's being investigated," Alderson said. "We're still in that process."

Alderson said Harvey will be evaluated further in Florida on Tuesday and could have to return to New York for more tests.

Mets manager Terry Collins emphasized the issue had nothing to do with Harvey's arm. Harvey had Tommy John surgery in 2013 and missed all of 2014.

"It is mysterious, but I'm not at liberty to discuss it right now," Collins said. "I wouldn't assume anything until we hear from the doctors."

Collins paused for a few seconds when asked whether he was concerned about Harvey's status for the opener against the champion Royals - a rematch last year's World Series.

"It's hard to say right now," Collins said. "I don't know just yet. Certainly what I do know, we're very lucky to have the pitching we've got. In case he can't go, we'll have somebody else ready."

Day man to beat at Masters after taking top ranking

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—The fortunes of Jason Day turned as quickly as the biggest match he faced in winning the Dell Match Play.

Just two weeks ago, he arrived at the Arnold Palmer Invitational without having won in six months and showing few signs that he was ready to crank up that fearsome combination of long ball and short game.

Day now heads to the Masters as the man to beat.

Coming off a one-shot victory at Bay Hill, the 28-year-old Australian overcame a back injury that nearly caused him to withdraw, went far enough in the Match Play to return to No. 1 in the world, outlasted Rory McIlroy in the semifinals and then capped off a remarkable week in Texas by going home with the trophy.

He will head to Augusta National later this week to start preparing. The Masters starts April 7.

"I am looking forward to it," Day said. "I know it's one tournament that I've always want to win. So the motivation and the want ... there's no problem. It's been good momentum for me, confidence-wise, over the last two weeks. I can't get comfortable with how I'm playing right now. I can't get lazy, because I've got to understand that what I'm doing is working. So I've got to keep working on the things that have caused me to win over the last two weeks."

The last time anyone won back-to-back on the PGA Tour was only three weeks ago when Adam Scott won at PGA National and Doral. What makes Day stand out as a favorite is that the Match Play was his sixth victory in his last 13 starts dating to his record win at the PGA Championship last August.

Jordan Spieth's loss in the fourth round was the first part in Day getting back to No. 1.

Day winning in the quarterfinals was the second part.

As for that big match?

The record book will show that Day defeated Louis Oosthuizen, 5 and 4, to win the tournament. That was never really in doubt. Day took the lead for good on the fourth hole and extended it because he was making putts at Austin Country Club and Oosthuizen was not.

"A top player these days, he always makes that crucial putt when he needs to," Oosthuizen said. "We've seen a thousand times through Tiger doing it. Jordan does it all the time. And Jason, whenever he needs to make a crucial putt, he makes it. You see him this morning against Rory when he made that putt on 18. He's always been a great iron player. He's always been a great long iron player.

"And the way he's putting now, there's a reason why he's No. 1 in the world."

The key moment for Day even getting to the championship match was against McIlroy on the back nine.

McIlroy was on the verge of going 1 up when he hit a magnificent shot into the wind, over the water to the left corner of the green, leaving him 6 feet for birdie. Day missed the green left and faced a downhill chip so severe that he went with a full shot to reduce the roll. It worked OK, but not great, and he still had 12 feet left for par.

US likely would miss World Cup if it loses again

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—If the United States loses to Guatemala on Tuesday, the Americans almost certainly would fail to qualify for the 2018 World Cup.

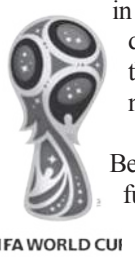
"There's a sense of urgency tomorrow night because we need three points now," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said Monday.

After playing in seven straight World Cups, the Americans put their streak in jeopardy with a 2-0 loss Friday night in Guatemala City, where mistakes led to a pair of goals in the first 15 minutes. The Americans had been unbeaten in 21 games against Guatemala since 1988.

"We came back here in a must-win situation," U.S. forward Clint Dempsey said.

Trinidad and Tobago (2-1) leads Group C with seven points at the halfway point, Guatemala (2-0-1) is one point back, the U.S. (1-1-1) has four points and St. Vincent (0-3) is last. The top two teams advance to the six-nation finals of North and Central America and the Caribbean.

With Trinidad likely to win at home against St. Vincent, another loss to No. 95 Guatemala would leave the 30th-ranked U.S. five points out of second place with two games left. And Guatemala finale is at home against 141st-ranked St. Vincent.



Even with a tie, the U.S. would be in trouble—possibly needing No. 49 Trinidad to win its home game against Guatemala in September. The Americans' remaining matches are at St. Vincent on Sept. 2 and home against T&T four days later.

"All these experiences along the way you use to help you get through," U.S. captain Michael Bradley said. "You have to understand that somewhere along the way, maybe twice, you're playing in a game where your lives depend on it. Certainly that's the case tomorrow night."

Midfielder Alejandro Bedoya, who played the full match Friday, has a sore ankle, and it is unclear whether he will be available.

Klinsmann brought in defender Graham Zusi and 17-year-old midfielder Christian Pulisic in place of injured defender Matt Besler and midfielder Fabian Johnson.

Klinsmann was criticized for his lineup Friday, which had Geoff Cameron at right back instead of central defender, DeAndre Yedlin in midfield instead of at right back and Michael Orozco in central defense though he has not played this year for Tijuana. In addition, Klinsmann started goalkeeper Tim Howard, who lost his job at Everton and had not played since Jan. 24.

In keeping with Klinsmann's rotation plan, Brad Guzan is to start in goal on Tuesday.

"I'm not playing anybody out of position," Klinsmann said. "I know that Geoff Cameron can play right back and center back. I know that Yedlin can play right winger and right back. This is a good thing for us to have because we try to put the pieces together the best way possible in order for them to fit. Having that option with certain players—Fabian Johnson as a fullback or as a midfielder, which he does the same thing in transitioning in either position with his club team—is good for us."

MTEC sponsors runners to PIC Hafa Adai 5K

Marianas Tourism Education Council has sponsored 100 MY WAVE Club members who will participate in the Pacific Islands Club's Hafa Adai 5K that will hit the road on April 9.

MTEC helps organize MY WAVE Clubs in order to teach kids about the benefit and value of our tourism industry. MTEC chair Vicky Benavente said supporting events like the PIC Hafa Adai 5K falls directly in line with the MTEC mission.

"Having our students become more involved with community events helps them understand the vital link between themselves and the visitors who come to our islands for fun and relaxation," she said.

Since its inception, the PIC Hafa Adai 5K has raised $16,000 for local non-profit groups. Last year, the event raised $10,000 for the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. This year, race proceeds will benefit the Northern Mariana Islands Chapter of the American Red Cross.

PIC Sports, Entertainment and Activities director Glenn Policare launched the PIC Hafa Adai 5K in 2014 as a way to promote physical activities and raise funds for local organizations. The race has since become one of PIC Saipan's signature events.

While the Red Cross may be this year's beneficiary, PIC has pledged an additional $1,500 in sporting equipment to be distributed to three local schools. According to event director Keoni Ichihara, the elementary, middle and high schools with the most paid participants in the PIC Hafa Adai 5K will take home the top prize.

The elementary (grades 1-5), junior high/middle schools (grades 6-8) and high schools (grades 9-12) which have the most paid entries into the Hafa Adai 5K will earn their respective schools some brand new sporting equipment. To date, more than 20 schools have registered participants in next month's event. The list includes Dandan Middle School, Eucon, Garapan Elementary School, Grace Christian Academy, Gregory T. Camacho Elementary School. Hopwood Junior High, Kagman Elementary School, Kagman High School, Koblerville Elementary School, Marianas Baptist Academy, Marianas High, Mount Carmel, Oleai Elementary School , Saipan Community School, Saipan International School, , Saipan Southern High School, San Antonio Middle School, San Vicente Elementary School, Seventh Day Adventist School, Tanapag Middle School, and William S. Reyes Elementary School.

"I think the kids have the most fun at this event," Activities manager Dion Camacho said. "Last year, they were the ones who were covered in the most color!"

The 5KM will start and end at PIC Saipan and will feature five different coloring stations along the Beach Road route. Participants are encouraged to wear white attire so the full effect of the coloring stations can be seen post-race. Volunteers will be celebrating each runner's arrival by greeting them with "holi powder;" a biodegradable mixture of corn starch and food coloring.

Registration for the PIC Hafa Adai 5K is only $10 and entry forms are available at Triple J Motors on Beach Road, the PIC lobby, Gold's Gym, Boarderline and the Marianas Visitors Authority. All completed entry forms must be turned in to the PIC front desk.

For more information, please contact Ichihara at 237-5147. ***(PR)***

BREWERS

From Page 28

ball from Deleon Guerrero, who came in for Ricky Joe Reungel late in the inning after the Brewers had collected four runs. Brel's run forced the match's first and only deadlock, which was quickly broken by Diego Camacho, who made it home off Deleon Guerrero 's wild pitch.

Now up by a shaky lead, all the Brewers needed were defensive stops at the top of the last inning to win the opening game. They did what the doctor ordered with the second baseman Camacho throwing to Byron Kaipat at first base to beat Falcons leadoff batter Nunu Kapileo. The Brewers then got the second out with closer Vince Cepeda striking out Barry Sunumai.

A hit by pitch kept the Falcons in the game, but not for long as Zack Blas was left stranded at first after Cepeda struck out J.J. Lifoifoi for the final out.

The Falcons absorbed the sorry loss after stunning the Brewers in the majority of the match. Falcons starting pitcher Frankie Lieto and his teammates held the Brewers without a run in the first five innings. Lieto also allowed only two hits in the five-inning shutdown before the Brewers finally lit up the board at the bottom of the sixth inning off Dela Cruz's RBI triple.

The Falcons got the one run back at the top of the seventh off Kapileo's RBI single and June Mira made the same hit for the 6-1 advantage. The Falcons four other runs came in the first, second, and fifth inning. Mira scored the first run of the season off Sunumai's single, while Jonah Delos Reyes made it two in a row for the Falcons in the first inning when he reached home of a fielder's choice. A Lieto RBI single in the second gave the Falcons a 3-0 advantage, while another Sunumai RBI single extended the lead to four before they collapsed late in the game and allowed the Brewers to steal the win.

Saralu went 3-for-4 for the Brewers and scored one double and a triple, while Mira was 3-for-4 at bat.

Meanwhile, Besides the Go See Mark-sponsored Brewers and Jural Group-backed Falcons, six other teams are competing in this year's SBL. The list includes the Blue Jays, Yankees, North Starz, Titanium, Aces, and CK Bears.

The Blue Jays, who are supported by lawyer Robert O'Connor will have their opening game tonight against the Saipan Stevedore-sponsored Yankees, while the Hawaiian Rock North Starz and Art Man Titanium will collide this Friday. On Monday, the Best Sunshine-backed Aces will take on the Bears.

SSC

From Page 28

apiece in the 200m butterfly and 100m backstroke, seven apiece in the 50m and 100m butterfly and 50m and 100m breaststroke, and one in the 400m individual medley.

While Winkfield lauded the entire team's effort, he also made a special mention to four swimmers—Lennosuke Suzuki, Angel Marie Tan, Kento Akimaru, and Andrei Kaith Lynn Chavez.

"Four age group records were broken, three by Lennosuke Suzuki (100m and 200m freestyle and 200m individual medley) and one by Angel Tan (50m breaststroke). Congratulations to both swimmers on a job well done. Kento Akimaru had a great meet as well. He is a very hard worker and the coaches were not surprised by his success. Kaith Lyn Chavez did surprise the coaches with her 100 meter butterfly," he said.

Akimaru got PBTs in the 50m and 200m freestyle, 100, butterfly, 100m breaststroke, 100m backstroke, and 200m and 400m IM, while Chavez was the lone female swimmer in the U8 age group to race in the 100m butterfly (2:04.60).

"Overall the coaches were more than happy with the team's performance. There were a lot of fast times swum, a lot of growth, and a lot of friendships forged. It was a great weekend of swimming," Winkfield said.

Meanwhile, SSC would like to thank all the participating teams, volunteers, and other supporters of the meet held from March 17 to 19 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

"SSC would like to thank all the clubs for their participation. Having off-island teams come and compete is key to having a competitive swim meet so we thank the Palau National Swim Team and Pohnpei Swim Team for their participation. We also thank Tsunami Saipan for their continued support of aquatics in the CNMI. Unfortunately, the Kwajalein Swim Club was not able to send participants due to illness, but we look forward to seeing them next year," the SSC coach said.

"SSC would also like to acknowledge the support of the Marianas Resort for their tireless efforts to give our youth a venue to swim. The Naked Fish for providing a venue for the 37th Saipan Ocean Swim and the DPS Boating Safety. Lastly, we would like to thank the numerous volunteers who assisted in running the swim meet and ocean swim. We have a great group of parents who work tirelessly all season to ensure the meets will run smoothly," Winkfield added.

IGBL

From Page 28

T Galleria held BECQ to two field goals and four points in the first quarter to set up the 23-point winning margin.

Ian Iriarte made the four markers for BECQ, while five different players scored for T Galleria in the opening canto to take a 10-4 advantage. T Galleria then stretched the lead in the last three periods with Brendon Talania, Ivan Devero, and Elmer Esdrelon providing the needed offense for the squad. Marino Hiroichi put the finishing touches on T Galleria's easy victory, drilling three straight triples in the fourth quarter.

Talania led T Galleria with his 14 points, while Devero chipped in 11, and Hiroichi and four of his teammates contributed at least 6 markers each. Only Joe Ito broke into double figures for BECQ with his 13 points.

In the first match, Pacific Islands Club notched its second win in as many games after outclassing CHCC, 75-68.

PIC, which coasted past Customs, 75-55, in its debut game last week, this time pulled off a close win against CHCC, canning crucial free throws to take the 7-point win. Jack Aranda and Mardix Eroch knocked two charities apiece for PIC's last four markers. Aranda also hit two triples in the fourth quarter to keep PIC's safe distance. The former Saipan Southern High School standout ended up top-scoring for PIC with his 16 points.

James Abuy added 15 with all his baskets coming from beyond the arc, while Darwin Barbo also finished in twin digits with his 12. Eroch, Mike Espinosa, and Sean Rabasto combined for 21 for PIC's balance offense.

Zachariah Johnson paced CHCC with his 18 markers, while Galarse tallied 10, but was scoreless in the second half.

First Game

PIC 75 — Aranda 16, Abuy 15, Barbo 12, Espinosa 8, Eroch 8, Rabasto 7, Castro 4,, Arciaga 4.

CHCC 68 — Johnson 18, Galarse 10, Iramk 8, Cadiang 6, Mendiola 6, Flores 6, Raho 2.

Second Game

T Galleria 65 — Talania 14, Devero 11, Hiroichi 9, Esdrelon 8, Espina 7, Yap 6, Guiab 6, Demapan 4.

BECQ 42 — Ito 13, D. Ogumoro 6, A. Ogumoro 6, Pangelinan 5, Ju. Reyes 4, Iriarte 4, Okano 2.

Tsunami Saipan Swim Camp in Japan

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Water Mates head coach Ryuji Nagahama introduces Tsunami Saipan members to the host club's swimmers.

Tsunami Saipan's Ashley Dangol, front, and Aika Watanabe, left, wait for their turn to do the swim drills.

Tsunami Saipan's Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, right, poses for a photo with Water Mates members.

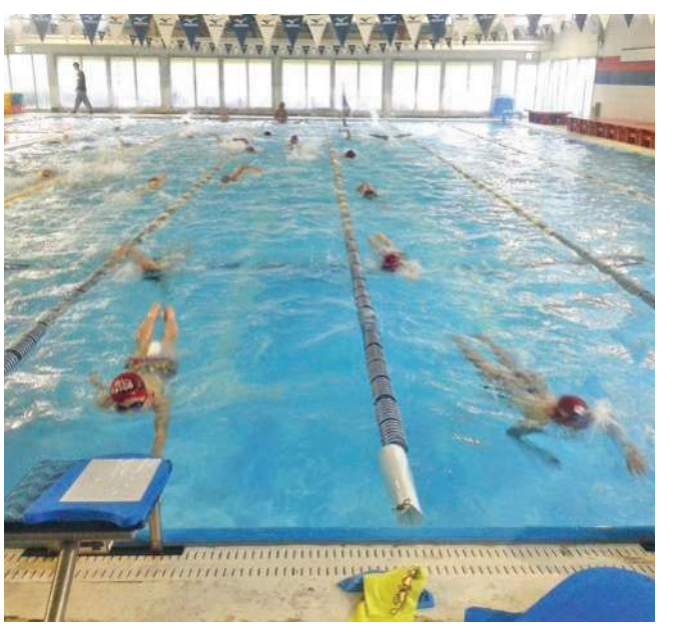
Tsunami Saipan's Isaiah Aleksenko, third left, enjoys a light moment with Japanese swimmers before plunging into the pool.

Tsunami Saipan swimmers and Water Mates members chat during a break in their training session.

Tsunami Saipan and Water Mates swimmers listen to the instructions from coaches.

Tsunami Saipan swimmers enjoy a free ride on Water Mates bus.

Water Mates coaches join Tsunami Saipan swimmers for a group photo.



Tsunami Saipan swimmers practice in a 25-meter pool.

Water Mates head coach Ryuji Nagahama gives instructions to Tsunami Saipan swimmers.

Jazz hand Kobe worst loss ever in last visit to Utah

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Kuznetsova upsets Serena at Miami Open

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Go See Mark Brewers players pose for a photo before facing the Falcons in the opening game in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Brewers rally past Falcons

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Defending champions GSM Brewers foiled the Falcons' upset bid after pulling off a come-from-behind 7-6 win in the opening game in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Catcher Pat Alepuyo saved the day for the Brewers as his three-RBI double—his lone hit in four at bat— sparked the team's rally at the bottom of the eighth inning. Before Alepuyo's pivotal hit, the Brewers were staring a 1-6 deficit with two outs and the bases loaded. The veteran catcher then drove home leadoff batter Tyrone Omar, Nokki Saralu and Ricardo Dela Cruz to move the Brewers within two, 4-6.

Alepuyo also reached on a Jesse Brel single, while the latter scored, too off a passed

See BREWERS on Page 26

SSC swimmers set 114 PBTs

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Saipan Swim Club member races in the 50m freestyle event in the 2016 SSC International Invitational Meet held from March 17 to 19 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club members made the most out of the three-day competition in the 2016 SSC International Invitational Meet after recording 114 personal best times.

"SSC had a phenomenal meet with numerous personal best times and individual milestones," SSC head coach Jacoby Winkfield said.

Of the 114 PBTs, the most (24) were registered in the 50m freestyle, while SSC swimmers had 17 PBTs each in the 100m freestyle and 50m backstroke, 11 in the 200m freestyle, eight

See SSC on Page 26

T Galleria pounds BECQ in IGBL

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

T Galleria eased past Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality, 65-42, in the second game in the 2016 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

See IGBL on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
T Galleria's Jester Yap drives in between the defense of BECQ players during the third quarter of their game in the IGBL last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.